

COMMENT OF THE DAY
Way Cleared

SO far as the Western delegates are concerned the second week of the Geneva conference opens with an even more urgent demand for unity than when the conference originally assembled together, and it will be necessary for the Big Three to close their ranks if they are to achieve what is desirable in the delicate negotiations due to begin on Indo-China and Korea. So far, the Western delegates have been acting along independent lines and all too clearly are at variance as to what represents the proper policy for dealing with the complex problems before the Geneva conference. Mr. Foster Dulles remained adamant in his demand for public approval by Britain and France of his United Nations proposition, and when that was not forthcoming he visibly edged himself away from the unofficial talks which developed between Mr. Bidault, Mr. Eden and Mr. Chou En-lai, and surrendered to his colleagues the initiative in the procedural discussions. Since then also his personal position has been compromised by the sudden announcement by President Eisenhower that he agreed no decision should be taken about a Southeast Asia alliance or intervention in Indo-China until the results of the Geneva conference were known. This cut the ground completely away from Mr. Dulles who had shown no inclination to compromise on his formula for bringing the Indo-China problem to a head. Thus with the Big Three in disagreement on a fundamental issue, political commentators and diplomatic observers have been variously led to describe the American attitude as too tough, the British attitude as too soft, and that of France as weak.

THE apparent disunity of the Western powers is compounded of a number of factors, not the least influential being Mr. Dulles' misconception of his own position at Geneva. He seems to have gone there carrying the firm conviction that he enjoyed carte blanche for advancing his own policies. He does not appear to have been sufficiently briefed by President Eisenhower who must have been aware of the sensitive Franco-British reactions to the Secretary of State's demand for United Nations action before the Geneva conference opened, but who awaited until the end of last week before making known his willingness to concede to the British point of view. For this reason sympathy can be felt for Mr. Dulles if he considers he has been "let down" by the President, and in view of his embarrassment, no one can really blame him for deciding to stick to his original timetable and return to the United States today, despite the fact that the drama proper at Geneva is about to open. What is now of prime importance is whether Mr. Bidault, his deputy, has been fully briefed by President Eisenhower and is attending the conference equipped with instructions that will avoid any repetition of embarrassment between the Chief Executive and the State Department. The way has been cleared for full American participation in the momentous negotiations due to begin and there is every reason why the Big Three representatives should be able to enter the conference in full alliance and determined, so far as they are concerned, that everything possible shall be done to reach agreement with the Communists on a basis of acceptable principles and practical conditions.

New US Efforts For SE Asia Security Alliance
SEEK TO CREATE SOLID RING AGAINST ANY MORE RED AGGRESSION

Geneva, May 2.
The United States today pushed emergency talks for a security alliance to halt the Communist drive in Southeast Asia as the Indo-China conflict mounted to a bloody climax on the Dien Bien Phu battlefield.
While all signs pointed to an early beginning of Indo-China peace talks at the Geneva conference, the United States sped efforts to create a deep solid ring against further Red aggression.
The drive was sparked by these moves:
1. A special session of the ANZUS — Australia, New Zealand and the United States — Treaty Council under the chairmanship of the United States Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles. Mr. Dulles called the meeting with the Foreign Ministers of the two other Pacific powers on the eve of his return to the United States to discuss the mounting military crisis in Indo-China and to urge swift completion of the Southeast Asia pact.
2. A close and confidential discussion of the treaty plan last night between Mr. Dulles, the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Walter Bedell Smith, and the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden.
3. Talks going on in Indo-China between US representatives and the governments of the three Associated States.
The United States also has discussed the plan with neighboring Thailand, standing next in the possible path of the Communist drive, and the Philippines.
The urgency of the ANZUS Council meeting was underlined by the fact that the official communiqué said it was held under Article 3 of the treaty.
This provides, "The parties will consult together whenever in the opinion of any one of them the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the parties is threatened in the Pacific."
In addition to Mr. Dulles, the meeting was attended by the Australian Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Richard Casey, and the New Zealand Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Clifton Webb.
Mr. Casey told the United Press yesterday he "generally favoured" some such a security organisation.
Informed Western sources described the meeting as one of "extreme importance" and they said it had been specially called under the immediate impact of the Indo-China military situation.
Mr. Dulles was accompanied to the meeting by the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Walter Bedell Smith, who brought with him from Washington the latest appraisal of the military position from the National Security Council's meeting on Thursday.
The United States' moves for a security set-up were pressed as it became certain that an Indo-China peace conference would open in the near future attended by the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, Red China, the three Associated States and representatives of the Communist rebel Vietnam.

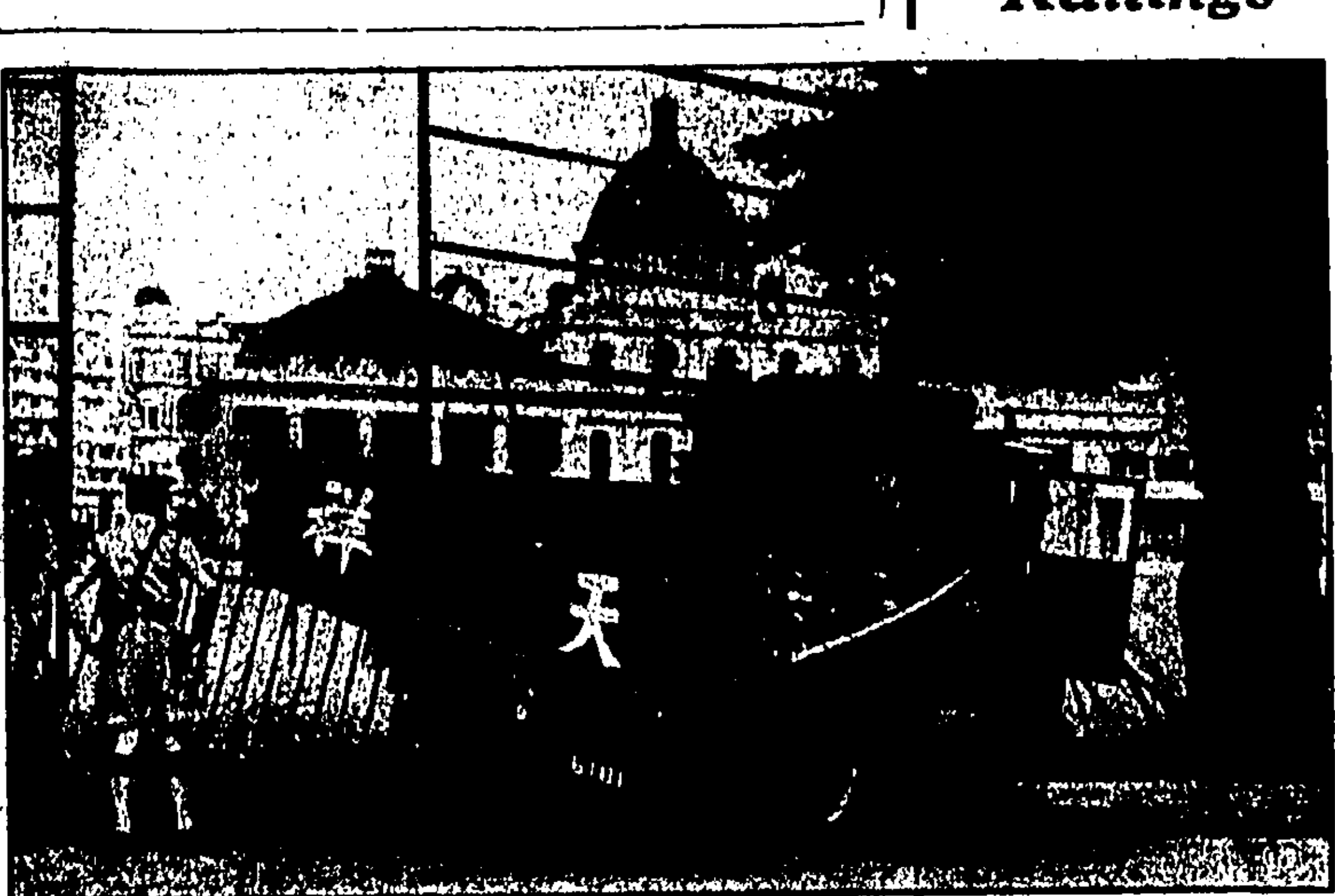
BATTLEFIELD CRISIS

M. Jean Chauvel, French Ambassador to Switzerland, visited the Soviet deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, late this afternoon. Informed sources said he told him France was sending invitations to the three Associated States to take part in the Indo-China conference and already had received assurances that all would attend.
Mr. Gromyko was reported to have agreed to send out an invitation to the Vietnamese Communists — an invitation signed by Russia alone and not by the Chinese Reds as well, as the French had feared the Russians might insist.
French sources said the meeting left it a virtual certainty the Indo-China conference would open this week.
Thailand proposed a new ceasefire plan by regional stages for Indo-China as the conflict moved rapidly toward a battlefield crisis at Dien Bien Phu.
With all signs pointing to an early opening of Indo-China peace talks, the Thai peace chief, Prince Wan Weithayakon, disclosed that he had discussed the plan informally with other delegation heads at the Far East conference here.
Prince Wan, one of the conference's three chairmen, told the United Press the plan provides for:
1. A preliminary ceasefire for exchange of wounded at Dien Bien Phu.
2. A ceasefire in stages, region by region, starting with Laos and Cambodia, followed by the Red River delta and finally the rest of Vietnam.
3. Attempt to reach a "modus vivendi" with the Communist Vietnamese rebels by negotiation at the conference table.
4. No partition.
Moves to get the Indo-China peace talks rolling were speeded up when the French launched their second week of the UN Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, prepared to leave for home tomorrow.
The general debate on Korea will resume tomorrow after a two-day break and then probably be terminated. But both plenary sessions and secret sessions — the table bargaining merely showed up the complete deadlock.
The real spotlight was focused on Indo-China, where the French launched their final assault against the symbolic fortress.
Amid the last preparatory stages for the Indo-China talks, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Nguyen Que Dinh, arrived here yesterday carrying the terms on which his country's Chief of State, Bao Dai, would participate in the talks.
He conferred at length with M. Marc Jacquet, French Minister for the Associated States, in an inn at St. Julien, a French frontier village about eight miles from Geneva.
In the evening he drove into Geneva and conferred for two hours with the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, at the latter's lakeside villa.
He then met Mr. Dulles and Mr. Anthony Eden. Tomorrow a final meeting with all three Western Foreign Ministers together was scheduled.
After that, barring last-minute hitches, the French would inform the Soviets that everything was set and the date for opening the Indo-China talks probably would be announced.
The Russians were reported to have sent out invitations already to the Communist Vietnamese rebels. Three members of their delegation were said to be in Geneva staying with the Red Chinese delegation.
A major obstacle has been the reluctance of the Bao Dai representatives to sit down on a basis of equality with the Vietnamese. But the French were confident that a face-saving formula had now been found. The French were encouraged, too, by Communist reports that the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Hoang Minh Bui, is sick and has been replaced by a man believed to be less intransigent against France.

PROBABLE ALLIED STAND

Paris reports quoted the Red Chinese news agency as saying he had been replaced temporarily by Pham Van Dong, known to the French as he was a member of the Vietnamese delegations with which they negotiated at the Dalat and Fontainebleau conferences after World War II and is believed by them to be perhaps less rigidly Communist than Giam.
The Western Allies were expected to take a strong stand in the Indo-China talks against any ceasefire proposal by the Communists unless accompanied by both political and military guarantees that it would not result in surrender of the country to the Communists.
They also were believed to oppose partition, although President Eisenhower last week appeared to indicate he might eventually settle for such a plan as a last resort.
However, France's bargaining position obviously was weakened hourly by events on the Dien Bien Phu battlefield.
Explaining Thailand's plan, Prince Wan told the United Press "I am against partition. But no line exists as in Korea. We should seek a ceasefire in Indo-China in the areas where fighting is in progress, stage by stage, and then seek a modus vivendi with the Vietnamese."
There is no defined fighting line as there was in Korea — no line on which to call for a ceasefire. My idea would be to call for a ceasefire in stages, region by region, starting with Laos and Cambodia, then the Red River delta and finally the rest of Vietnam.

Lorry Hits Railings



Picture taken after a runaway lorry had swerved into Hongkong Cricket Club railings in Murray Road this morning. There were no casualties. See back page for story. — Staff photographer.

Tornadoes And Storms Sweep Texas

Chicago, May 2.
New tornadoes and storms swept Texas for the third straight day today and violent weather swept into the Middle West. The storms have killed seven persons and injured scores.
An unconfirmed tornado was reported near West Mansfield, Ohio, 45 miles northwest of Columbus, and two or three water spouts were seen in Lake Michigan, six miles northeast of Gary, Indiana.
Tornado warnings were posted for sections of the Middle West. The storms continued a weekend outbreak of violent weather. At least 49 twisters struck in the South, Southwest and Mid-West on Friday and yesterday.
The Red Cross reported today that four persons were killed and 91 injured and at least 365 homes were damaged in a series of tornadoes that ripped through five Mid-Western States on Saturday.
VERMONT WIDESPREAD
Red Cross officials said most of the storms were minor but they were more widespread than any in the past three years.
All the dead were in Oklahoma, where the twisters hit nine counties, injured 66 persons, destroyed 55 homes and damaged 84 others, the Red Cross reported. Most of the dead and injured were in a storm that hit near Meeker, Oklahoma.
The following is a breakdown of the States affected:
Texas — 23 counties affected, 125 injured, 23 homes destroyed, 80 damaged.
Iowa — seven counties, eight injured, 41 homes destroyed, 163 damaged.
Arkansas — seven counties, one injured, three homes destroyed, 32 damaged.
Missouri — three counties, at least one injured. No reports of homes destroyed or damaged. — United Press.

Arabs Slain By Israeli Patrol

Tel-Aviv, May 2.
Two Arabs were killed and one wounded when an Israeli patrol clashed with infiltrators from the Egyptian-held Gaza strip last Friday, an Israeli Army spokesman said here today.
The infiltrators included five men who took up observation near the Faluja-BeerSheva Highway to observe Israeli army traffic, the spokesman said.
He added that fire was opened by Israelis on the Arab reconnaissance patrol. — France-Press.

Mau Mau Escape Attempt Foiled

Nairobi, May 1.
An armed Mau Mau gang today tried to break through a cordon of British troops in a street in the Asian quarter of Nairobi. Asian home guards captured two of the gang and a third was shot dead by an African constable. Troops and police rounded up 2,119 Kikuyu, Embu and Meru tribesmen in a raid on the Asian quarter. After an on-the-spot screening, 140 were detained for further investigation. — Reuters.

English Channel Rescue

Paris, May 2.
The 6,038-ton French cargo ship Fort Dauphin cast anchor off Dieppe this afternoon, with six Royal Air Force men who rescued when the British yacht Sea Lion capsized during a 55-mile hour gale in the English Channel yesterday.
The Fort Dauphin abandoned the search for a seventh man from the Sea Lion, which overturned 20 miles northeast of Cherbourg. The yacht was last seen drifting toward Le Havre last night. She left Cherbourg on Wednesday for Alderney in the Channel Islands. All men aboard were from the Royal Air Force Transport Command at Upavon, Wiltshire. — Reuters.

Fate Of Fortress In Balance

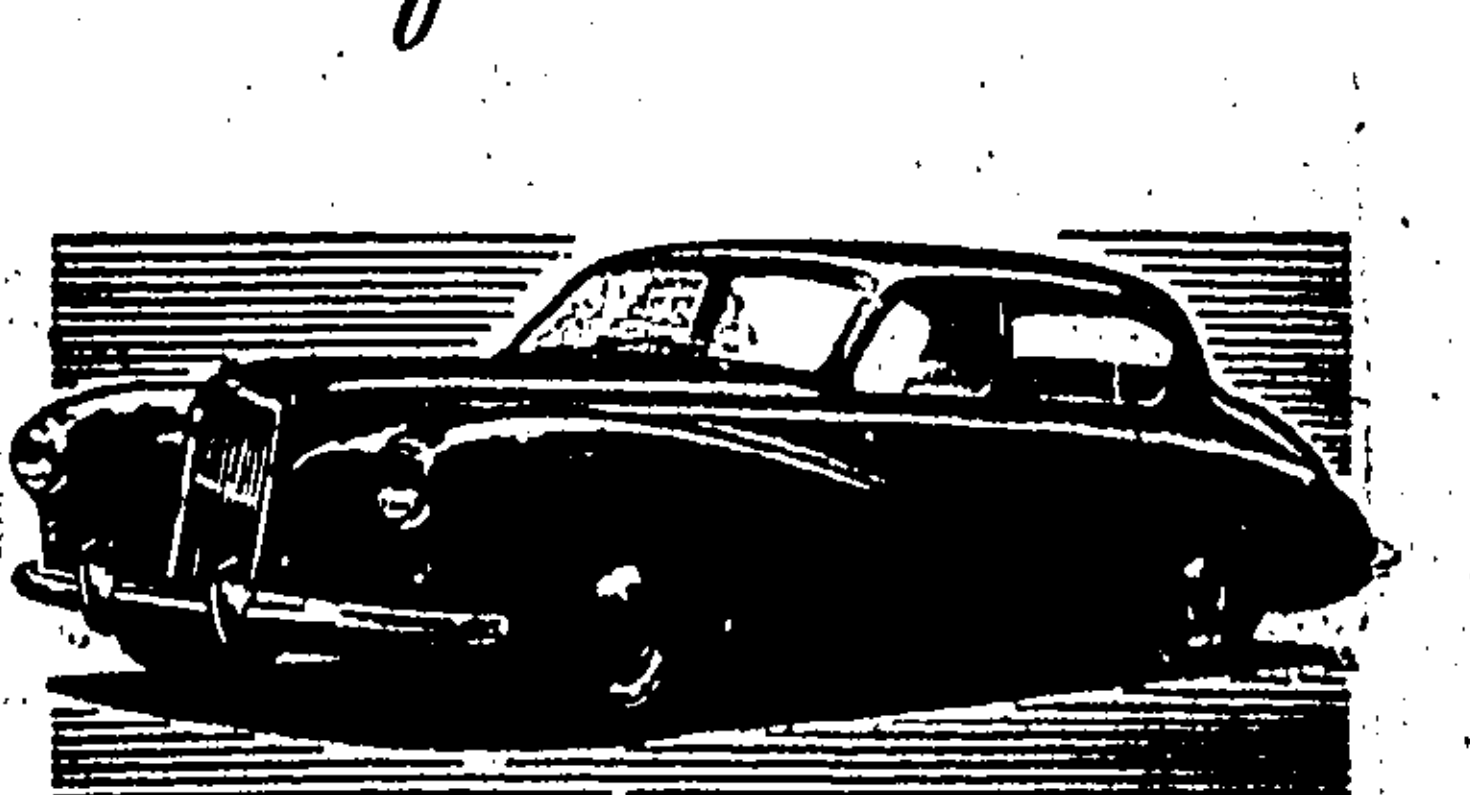
Savage Fighting At Dien Bien Phu

Paris, May 2.
The fate of Dien Bien Phu hung precariously in the balance today as the Communists seized three strong-points after eight hours of "human wave" attacks and drove a dangerous breach into a fourth.
Reports from the battlefield reached here said the Vietnamese had advanced more than 100 yards in their third massive assault on the beleaguered fortress and fierce fighting was raging all round the perimeter.
Communist General Vo Nguyen Giap broke the semi-circular last night when he threw in his men against the two and a half mile square redoubt which has resisted for more than seven weeks against overwhelming odds.
Under a blistering artillery and mortar barrage, the Vietnamese hurled themselves against the barbed wire defences. After five and a half hours of bitter combat, often hand to hand, three strong-points had been breached.
General Christian D. Castries ordered immediate counter-attacks after each assault. But by dawn, the Vietnamese were masters of three strong-points and a breach had been forced towards the centre of the southern outpost, Saboteur, lying isolated three miles from the main fortress.
The reports said six strong-points of about 20 making up the whole of the Dien Bien Phu defence system received simultaneously the full force of the Vietnamese attack.
WITHIN 600 YARDS
The most advanced elements were now within 600 yards of General D. Castries' Command Post in the heart of the complex system of trenches, dugouts, outposts and minefields.
The Vietnamese, who had thrown several regiments into the battle, were not letting up their pressure, but the weary defenders were contesting every yard with bayonets, knives and grenades.
The French High Command in Hanoi expected that General Giap would make a determined effort later today to try to break through to the centre of the fortress.
The Vietnamese last night also made a new attempt to cut the main French life line between the port of Haiphong and Hanoi to coincide with their assault on Dien Bien Phu.
The bulk of the supplies parachuted to the fortress are brought to Hanoi by rail and road from the coast.
The road was cut at many points and mines laid. The French foiled a bid to blow up a bridge over the Song Van Ue River about 40 miles east of Hanoi, by a lorry driver carrying a cargo of explosives. — Reuters.

Another Spanish Gesture

Madrid, May 2.
The Spanish Government, which closed its Consulate in Gibraltar yesterday, nine days before Queen Elizabeth's visit, has now banned the carrying of garbage from "The Rock" into Spain.
This latest move was reported from La Linea today in the newspaper ABC.
In imposing the ban, which came into force yesterday, the authorities are believed to be putting into effect a 20-year-old frontier regulation prohibiting the carrying of garbage into Spain.
The Rock has its own municipal incinerator, but Spanish pig keepers buy food from hotels there.
Madrid newspapers today published a Tangleur dispatch saying that the closing of the Spanish Consulate in Gibraltar would cause "great inconvenience" to people wishing to cross into Spain.
The general impression here is that Spain intends from now on to apply restrictive measures to the movement of people and goods between Gibraltar and Spain.
Madrid newspapers also published today a claim that shopkeepers in Gibraltar were suffering as a result of a decrease in the number of Spanish tourists. It is now more difficult for the tourists to get permits to cross the border.
Last night, the people of Gibraltar had a foretaste of celebrations for the Queen's visit on May 10. Illuminations all over the town were being tested. — Reuters.

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KING'S * PRINCESS

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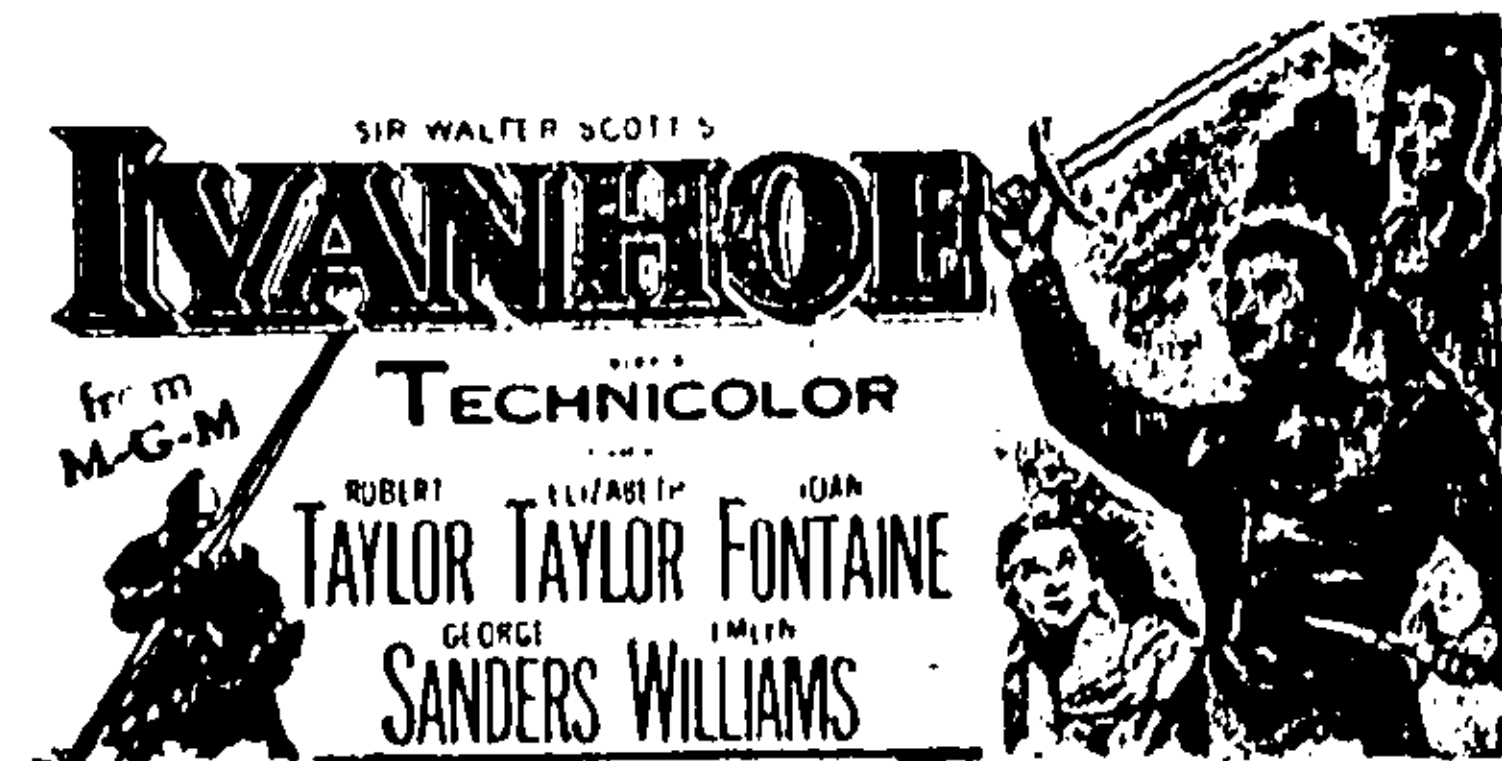
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20
& 9.30 P.M.AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

TO-DAY

CAPITOL

AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

ON PANORAMIC SCREEN



TO-DAY

LIBERTY

AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

CLARK GABLE • GENE TIERNEY

"NEVER LET ME GO"

RICHARD HAYDON

Screen Play by RONALD MILLAR and GEORGE FROESCHEL
Adapted From The Novel "Come The Dawn" by ROBERT BELL
Directed by DELMER DAVES • Produced by CLARENCE BROWN
An R-40 PICTURE

LEE Theatre GREIT WORLD

SHOWING TO-DAY

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



HOWARD HUGHES presents

ROBERT MITCHUM

JEAN SIMMONS

ARTHUR HUNNICUTT

in

"She Couldn't Say No!"

EDGAR BUCHANAN • WALLACE FORD

RAYMOND WALSH

TO-DAY

MAJESTIC

AT 2.30, 5.20,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

CHUCK CONNORS SCREEN PLAY BY EDWIN BLUM • DIRECTED BY ARTHUR LUBIN

ALSO LATEST FOX MOVIE TONE NEWS

OPENS TO-MORROW! WILLIAM HOLDEN in "BOOTS MALONE"

Dien Bien Phu
Battle Runs
Into Its 51st Day

Hanoi, May 2.

The battle of Dien Bien Phu, the fiercest and most spectacular of the Indo-Chinese war, which today entered upon a new phase, began on March 13 this year.

On the afternoon of that day and after intense artillery preparations, the Vietminh troops hurled themselves in screaming hordes on the camp, and succeeded in overwhelming the post "Beatrice" north-east of the main resistance point.

After the first night's fighting one thousand Vietminh dead were found entangled in the barbed wire surrounding the camp. On the second night, there were 1,600.

The Vietminh troops in their new tactics used bamboo poles filled with explosives to blow up the barbed wire surrounding the camp. After 48 hours of incredibly fierce fighting, the French Union troops repulsed the human tidal waves, and the camp's Commander, General (then Colonel) Christian de Castries, remained the master of the situation, although another outpost, "Gabrielle" to the north, fell a day later.

French and Vietnamese troops had recaptured Dien Bien Phu in a parachute operation on November 30 to facilitate the withdrawal of the French Union troops and civilians from Lai Chau, the capital of the Thai country some 100 miles to the north. The camp also constituted a threat to the Vietminh armies marching on Vietnam and Luang Prabang in Laos.

Although on March 14 after the first assault, the Vietminh had themselves requested a truce, so that the dead could be removed and buried, their commander, General Vo Nguyen Giap, soon showed he intended to prevent the evacuation of the French Union wounded by every possible means. Medical corps ambulance planes marked with Red Crosses were fired upon by the Vietminh, and the

pilots only managed to evacuate the seriously wounded by taking grave risks.

AIRFIELD DISABLED
Eventually, after April 27, the Dien Bien Phu airfield was put completely out of use by Vietminh advances and heavy artillery fire, and all air liaison with the camp was cut off. Little happened during the last fortnight in March, but the 16,000 men under de Castries were going up to their waists in mud.

For even before the first assault in March, they had been expecting an attack every hour, especially for the opening of the Berlin conference on January 26. This fortnight's breathing space was, however, in no way a period of rest for the men in Dien Bien Phu. They were feverishly engaged in reinforcing their defences, posting artillery and digging trenches. The airfield was still in use at the last of the perimeter, poured munitions, food supplies, medicine, and miles of barbed wire for the French troops in the camp.

At the same time, Colonel de Castries launched a large scale operation supported by tanks on a village just over a mile west of the perimeter, killing 1,500 Vietminh and capturing large armament stores. Meanwhile, the French Union aircraft continuously bombed the Vietminh anti-aircraft and artillery positions round the camp, and the jungle road along which Molotov trucks were bringing up supplies.

The Second Assault

The second Vietminh assault was launched on March 30 on the eastern perimeter. Fighting was, if anything, fiercer than before, and General Giap seemed determined to obtain a victory at all costs regardless of losses.

Fighting was most bitter around the north-eastern posts "Eliane" and "Dominique", which changed hands as many as six times. Once again, paratroopers, Foreign Legionnaires, and Moroccan sharpshooters battled hand-to-hand with fresh Vietminh troops, who screamed wildly as they charged. De Castries had again to close in his defences, but on April 1, the Vietminh fury abated.

DANGEROUSLY REDUCED
During the following days, activity was concentrated on the north-west flank of the camp, and the Vietminh managed to occupy about a third of the airfield, and two strong-points, which had become impossible to supply. The area was thus dangerously narrowed down to some 700 yards. Volunteers from all units in the Red River delta carried out their first parachute jumps on this tiny stretch of airfield.

On April 18, Colonel de Castries was promoted Brigadier.

General. The stars, which are part of every French General's insignia, were parachuted to the camp, along with cases of brandy to celebrate the occasion. Unfortunately, some of it fell into the Vietminh lines.

There was a period of quite another feverish reinforcing of defences. The Vietminh continued shelling the airfield, and endeavouring to run their trenches even closer towards the central defence points.

The Geneva conference opened on April 26, but there was still no large-scale attack. Even as the talks began, an Indo-China, however, late yesterday evening, General Giap launched his third assault.

Everyone in Hanoi is deeply aware that this is bound to be the decisive phase in the Dien Bien Phu battle, and that its result may profoundly affect the future of Indo-China.—France-Press.

King Hussein
Nominates
New Premier

Amman, May 2.

King Hussein today nominated Abu El Huda Tewfiq to form a new Cabinet, following the resignation of the Government, headed by Dr Fawzi Mulki.

The resignation had been expected for some time because of domestic and international factors and recent reported disharmony among the Ministers.

The disagreement hardened in April after the resignation of Ahmed Tugan, the Education Minister, necessitating a reshuffle of posts.

The new Prime Minister started consultations this evening. He is expected to complete his Cabinet tomorrow.

Abu El Huda Tewfiq was Prime Minister before Dr Mulki.—Reuters.

At Olympic Horse Trials



Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret in tweeds as they set out from Badminton House, Gloucestershire seat of the Duke of Beaufort, for a tour of the stables before watching the second day of the Olympic Horse Trials at Badminton held last week.—Reutersphoto.

"Short Sharp Shock"
Sentences Begin
For British Youths

London.

The first batch of 20 young offenders sent to the new Home Office detention centre at Goudhurst, Kent, experienced over Easter the early stages of "short, sharp shock" treatment. They will serve between one and six months there.

The treatment is designed for those who are not yet definitely anti-social, but need to be taught respect for the law.

It was first tried at Kildington, near Oxford.

The Kildington centre deals with boys aged 14 to 17. Goudhurst, opened about three weeks ago, is for those aged 17 to 21.

Offenders are committed there by magistrates within a radius of 80 miles, including those in London. A staff of 18 officers with long experience of prison work has been chosen by the Prison Commissioners for the Kent centre. They see that the strictest discipline is maintained.

WARDEN'S OPTIMISM

The warden, Mr J. R. Watson, who was deputy-governor of Winchester prison and has spent much time as a Borstal officer, said: "I am optimistic about this form of training." He emphasised that the centre was still in a formative stage. Basically conditions will be the same as at Kildington. The moment an offender arrives he is deprived not only of his liberty but also of every element of what he thinks is a good time.

The centre can accommodate 80. It has been converted from an orphan's home, and the interior is freshly painted in cream and green. There is a 12ft-high steel wire mesh fence, topped by barbed wire.

GRANNIE'S LETTER
GIVES A CLUE

Liege, May 2.

A letter found on one of two Belgian Air Force corporals accused of sabotaging eight Thunderjet planes was from his grandmother.

She was surprised that he had not got leave, and asked: "Have you stopped another plane from leaving?"

Prisoners Want More
Singing Lessons

Stafford, May 2.

Extra choral classes have been arranged at Stafford gaol to meet a demand for more singing lessons by older prisoners.

Younger prisoners prefer dramatics and art, said a report on prison education.—China Mail Special.

Complaints Of
Sinus
In Parliament

London, May 2.

Investigations are being made at the House of Commons into complaints of sinus trouble among M.P.s and members of the staff, Mr Bovins, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works, announced.

He was replying to a request from Dr Stross, Socialist M.P. for Stoke-on-Trent, for information about the drying up of the air and its effect on causing sinusitis. Dr Stross said that the humidity of the Chamber changed appreciably towards night-time.

Mr Bovins said that careful records of humidity in the Chamber were kept, but they did not show any appreciable change toward night-time. There was, however, a tendency for temperatures to rise when the House sat late (laughter) and when it was crowded at night.

As a result of experiments in the last few weeks it had been found beneficial to reduce the incoming air temperature to compensate for the heat radiated by members.

Royal Tour
Official Returns

London, May 2.

Viscount Althorp, 30, Acting Master of the Royal Household on Queen Elizabeth's Commonwealth tour, returned to London by air today from Tobruk.

The Queen gave him permission to cut short the tour to make arrangements for his wedding next month to the Hon. Frances Roche, 18, daughter of Lord Fermoy, a former Conservative member of Parliament.

The Queen is expected to attend the wedding with other members of the Royal family.—China Mail Special.

London, May 2.

The New China news agency said today that Marshal Kim Il Sung, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, attacked "the American imperialists" and the Syngman Rhee clique in a May Day order of the day yesterday.

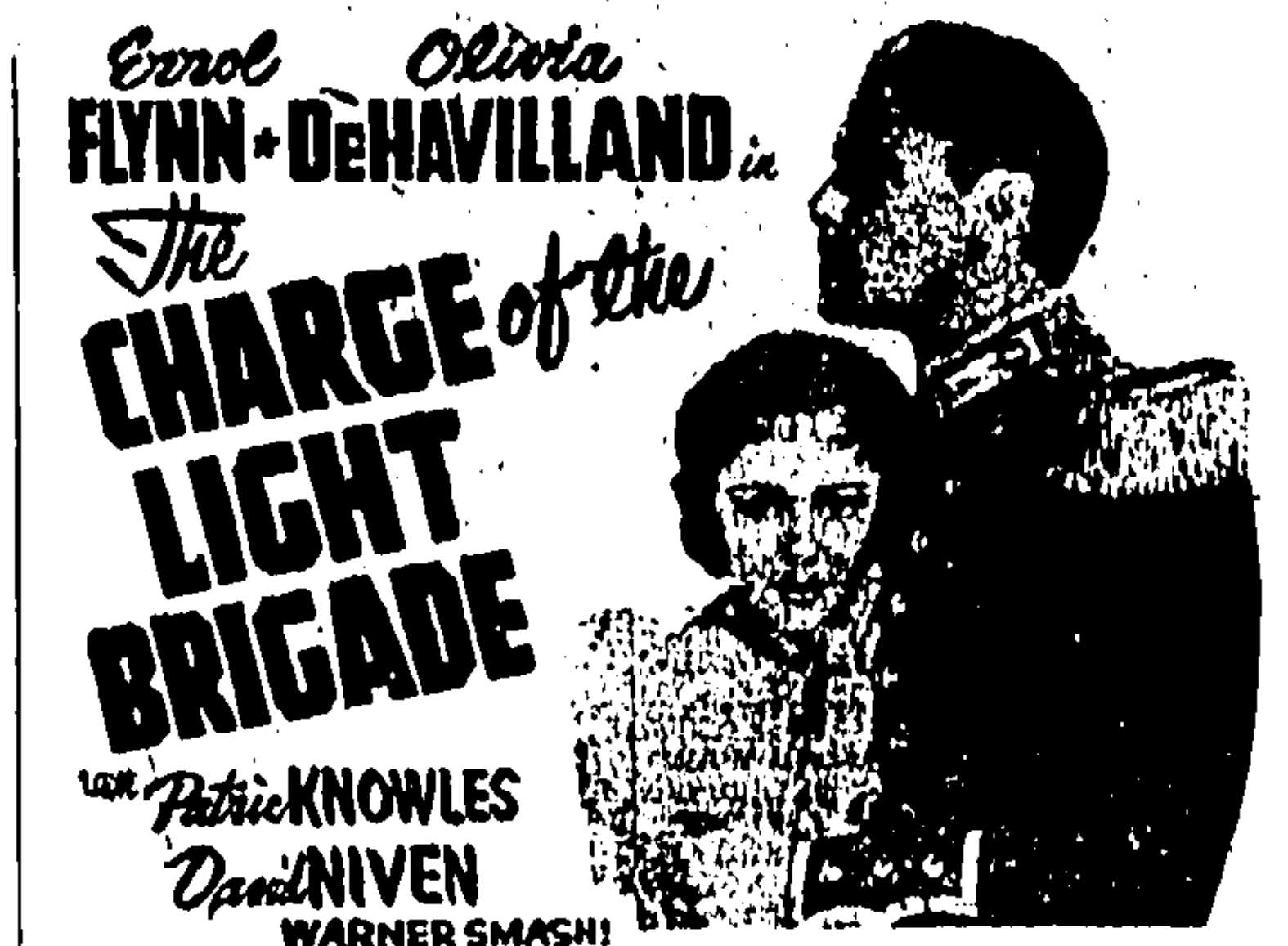
He said they had not abandoned their scheme of aggression against his country and added: "They still obstruct the peaceful settlement of the Korean question."—Reuters.

QUEEN'S
AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30
P.M.

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

ALHAMBRA
AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY



Watch for: Gregory Peck in "The Million Pound Note"

ROXY & BROADWAY

SHOWING TO-DAY

Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

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BROADWAY: \$3.50, \$3.00, \$2.40 & \$1.50.
Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid For This Picture.

EMPIRE
SHOWING TO-DAYAT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

AN AUSTRIAN PICTURE OF MUSIC & ROMANCE



ALSO LATEST PARAMOUNT NEWS

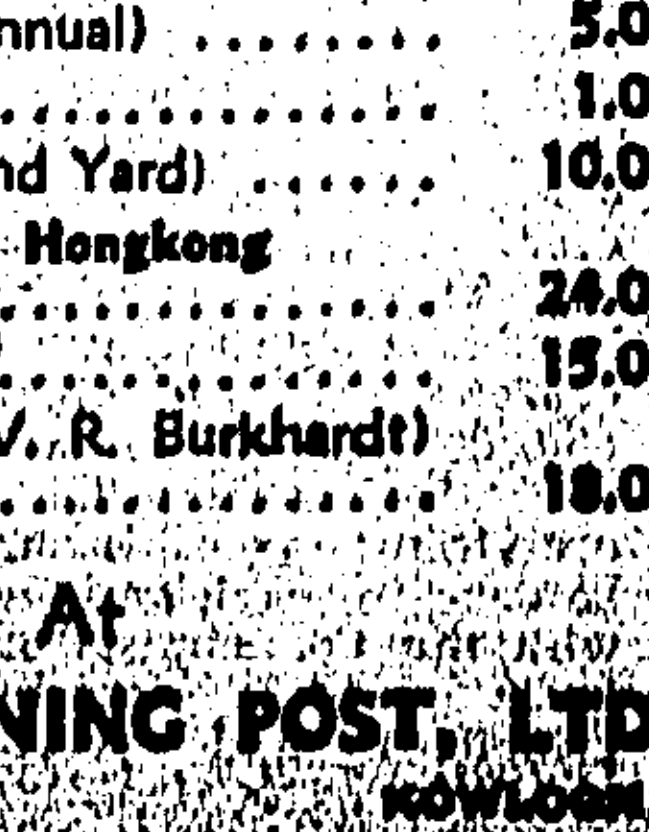
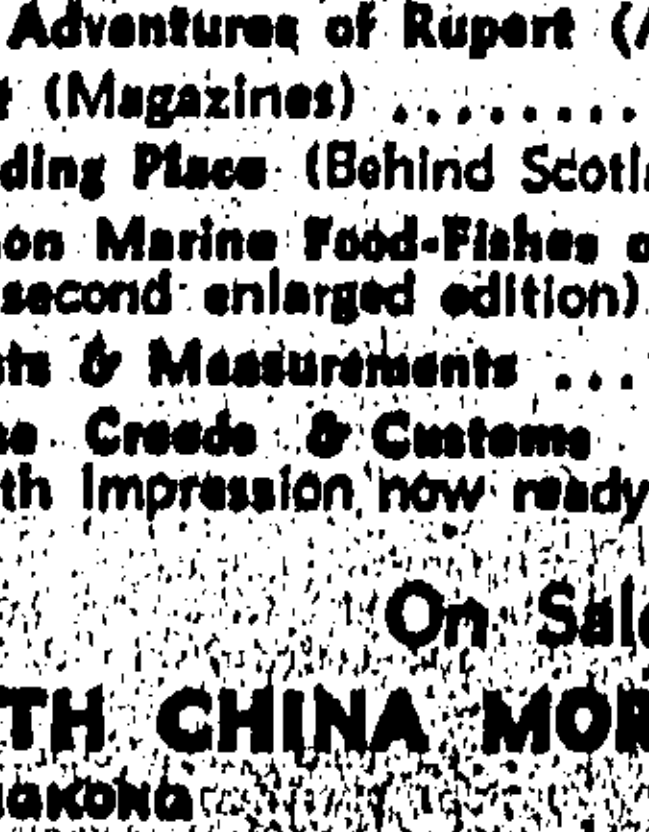
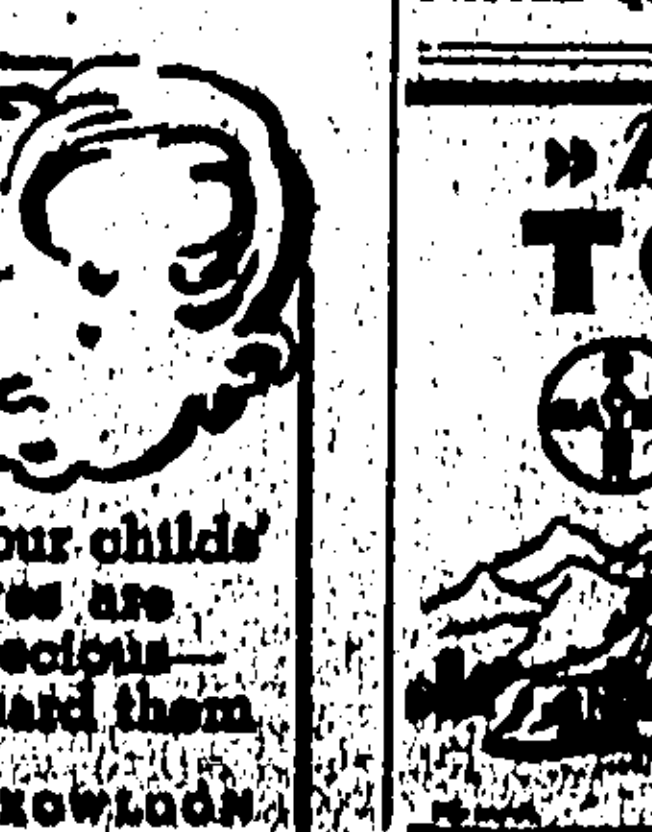
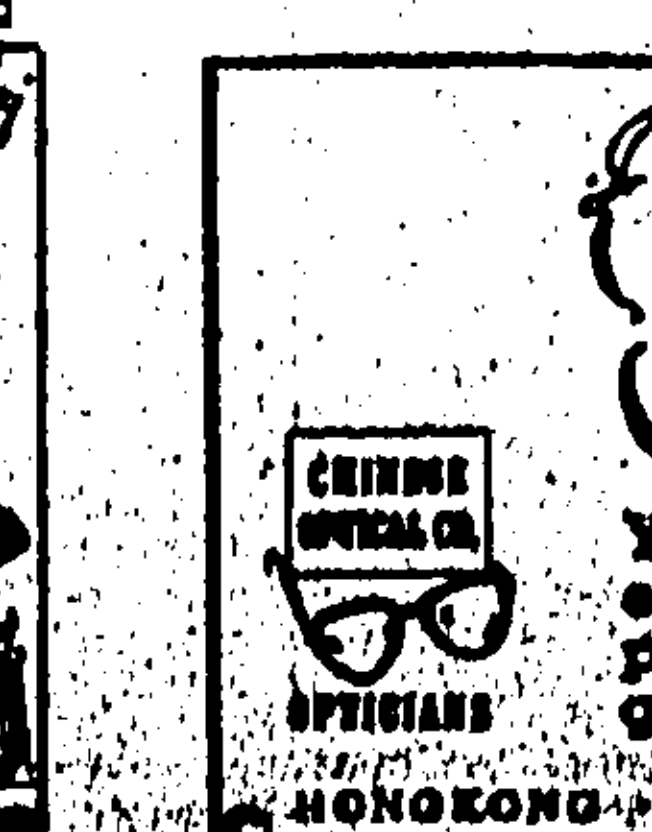
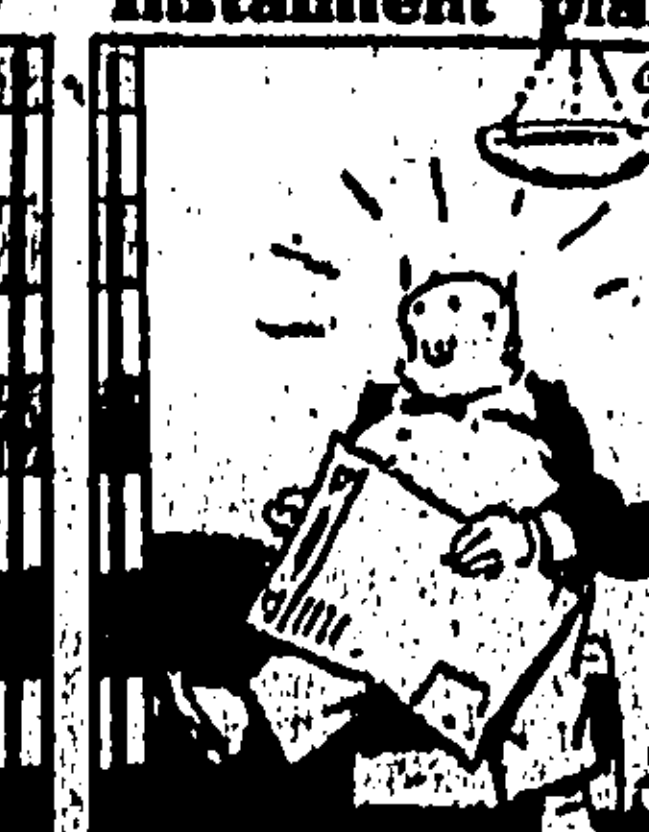
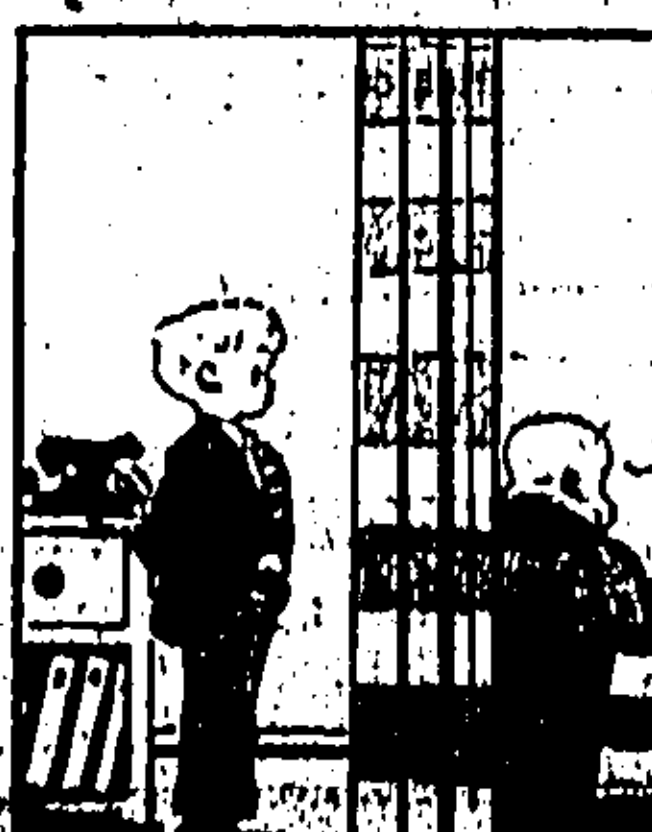
POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

Enjoyable Cookery	\$15.00
Baby Book	25.00
The Hongkong Countryside (Herklots)	25.00
Hongkong Birds (Herklots)	35.00
Coronation Glory	10.50
King George VI	10.50
It's Fun Finding Out — 2nd series (Bernard Wickstead)	5.00
Rupert Adventures (Annual)	4.00
The Magic Scroll	5.00
More Adventures of Rupert (Annual)	5.00
Rupert (Magazines)	1.00
No Hiding Places (Behind Scotland Yard)	10.00
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Royal Children At Malta



Radio picture received from Malta showing Prince Charles and Princess Anne setting foot on the George Cross Island from the royal yacht Britannia. They are in the care of their great uncle and great aunt, Lord and Lady Mountbatten.—Central Press.

Malta Prepares Big Welcome For The Royal Family

Valetta, Malta, May 2.

Queen Elizabeth will step ashore tomorrow on this island which her father, King George VI decorated with the George Cross for its wartime courage.

As the Royal yacht, Britannia approaches the island from Tobruk, Australian and New Zealand Air Force and Royal Navy jet planes based on Malta will fly past in greeting to the Royal family.

Then, as the Britannia prepares to enter the Grand Harbour, embattled wartime refuge of harassed convoys, bronzed Maltese gunners of the Army saluting battery in the ancient fort of Saint Elmo and Naval gunners in the shore establishments, H.M.S. Saint Angelica and H.M.S. Phoenix will fire Royal salutes of 21 guns.

Over the gaily decorated harbour will ring out Malta's many church bells. Youth organisations lining the breakwater will give a rousing welcome.

Naval helicopters will provide an escort off the breakwater. For the Queen, it will be a return to a place where she spent a happy holiday in 1949, when the Duke was serving with the Mediterranean Fleet.

On arrival, the Royal couple will receive on board the ship the Governor of Malta, Sir Gerald Cross, and Lady Cross, the Metropolitan Archbishop, Sir Michael Gonzi, and the Prime Minister, Dr. G. I. D. Olivier and Mrs. Olivier.

The Queen and the Duke will step ashore at the Custom House steps where a small tablet of marble, set into the well-worn stone, marks the spot where King George VI stepped on his wartime visit to the island.

Here the Queen will meet service and civilian personalities and inspect a Naval Guard of Honour.

On their way to the Governor's Palace, in Valetta, the Royal visitors will pass under lavishly decorated—some re-erected from Coronation year, others newly built from the £25,000 Malta is devoting to the Royal visit.

Over the ancient King's Gate, where the Queen and the Duke will enter the city, is an enormous Royal Coat of Arms in luminous point which shines by day and night.—China Mail Special.

ANZUS Council Holds Long Meeting In Geneva

Geneva, May 2.

A 10-man council of the three ANZUS pact countries—the United States, Australia and New Zealand—held a 75-minute review of the political and military situation in Southeast Asia at an emergency meeting today.

The meeting was called by the United States Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, under Article Three of the 81-month-old ANZUS pact, under which the three countries pledged mutual defence aid if attacked.

Article Three says that the "parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence, or security of any of the parties is threatened in the Pacific."

Delegates would not comment on the significance, if any, of Mr. Dulles's invoking this section of the treaty for calling the meeting.

But reliable sources said Mr. Dulles made plain to the Australian and New Zealand representatives he was determined to push ahead with extending non-Communist defensive arrangements in Southeast Asia.

It was suggested that today's meeting might prove to be the first of a series of defence talks between the United States and other friendly countries bordering the Pacific.

Mr. Dulles and the External Affairs Ministers of Australia, Mr. Richard Casey, and of New Zealand, Mr. T. Clifton Webb, reaffirmed their determination that the ANZUS pact would not be upset or superseded by any other defensive bloc in Southeast Asia or the Pacific.

RECORDS KEPT

Records were kept of the meeting and it was decided that an agreed minute—not necessarily a full text—would be released to the British Government, as at past ANZUS gatherings.

But Commonwealth sources said this official minute would be supplemented by the fullest possible discussion of the meeting with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, and his advisers.

Britain has made no secret of her annoyance at being excluded from the pact, and all three countries have agreed that Britain receive a complete briefing on all ANZUS talks.

It is understood Mr. Dulles referred again to the American-backed appeal by the French

for military aid in Indo-China which Britain and Commonwealth countries, including Australia and New Zealand, have not heeded.

But Mr. Dulles exerted no additional pressure on the two Commonwealth Ministers to change their views in the matter.

A delegate commented later: "It was an extremely friendly and smooth meeting."—Reuter.

American Song Writer Dead

Hollywood, May 2.

Mr. Arthur Johnston, 56, composer of many hit tunes, died yesterday after a long illness.

Songs for which Mr. Johnston wrote the music included "Femmes from Heaven," "Cocktails for Two," and "Thanks a Million."

He was a composer of music for films both here and in London.—Reuter.

Mr Dulles To Confer With Scelba Today

Milan, May 3.

The American Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, will hold talks today with the Italian Premier, Signor Mario Scelba, and the Foreign Minister, Signor Attilio Piccioni, on his way home from the Geneva conference.

It will be Signor Scelba's first meeting with Mr. Dulles, which Signor Piccioni requested on his behalf at the recent Atlantic Pact conference in Paris.

Political quarters in Rome said there would be no specific agenda for their talks but subjects to be discussed would include the Trieste problem, Italy's ratification of the European Defence Community, her attitude towards possible conversion of the Balkan Pact into a military alliance, immigration and American offshore orders to Italian industry.

Signor Scelba has repeatedly stated his Government does not subordinate E.D.C. ratification, now before Parliament, to the satisfaction of Italy's claims on the Trieste territory, but he has made clear that an acceptable solution of the long standing issue would greatly boost chances of obtaining a large Parliamentary majority for E.D.C. ratification.—Reuter.

To Catch Speeding Motorists

Wellington, May 3.

Microwave speed detectors, to enable New Zealand police to check speeding motorists, may soon be produced on a large scale by a firm of British manufacturers.

Tests of the apparatus in New Zealand have been so successful that sufficient of the detectors are being manufactured to supply traffic officers throughout the dominion.—China Mail Special.

Outside London Life Is Dull For Tourists

London, May 2.

Outside London, say tourists, life in Britain is unbearably dull.

Sir Alexander Maxwell, chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association, said that this was an invariable complaint.

"We are told that even in our liveliest resorts people are more or less compelled to go to bed by 10.30 or 11 o'clock."

"To many visitors, especially those from the Continent, the evening should be just beginning at this time—and it is not merely a question of licensing laws."

"Of course these do make life unnecessarily difficult for many people who wish to enjoy themselves in a normal way rather than cramming as many drinks as they possibly can to the detriment of their system or digestion, before the fatal hour of 10.30 p.m. or 11 p.m."

Sir Alexander, talking to the council of the association in London, said that last year American tourists brought in £26,000,000.

Russians Prefer Geraldo's Music To Stan Kenton's

Leonid Utyosov, Russia's chief melody-maker, bands are weaving "bare sound patterns without any content."

He claimed in a magazine article that Russians "do not think much of music in the style of Stan Kenton and Woody Herman."

But Britain's Geraldo and his Orchestra stand supreme in Soviet estimation—they are "real artists."

Utyosov, who is Art Director of the Russian State Variety Orchestra, wrote to News Week, a Soviet English-language magazine, to give his views on Western music.

Russians were "somewhat surprised" to find the music of Stan Kenton and Woody Herman enjoying the popularity it does among certain music lovers abroad.

"This type of music is nothing but bare sound patterns without any content, and we do not like it. The finest music is a goblet filled with the nectar of enjoyment—China Mail Special.

Russian MVD Agent Appeals For His Wife And Son



Holding photographs of his wife Yanina, 32, and son Alexander Nikolalovich, 1½, is Captain Khokhlov of the Russian MVD secret police who surrendered to the American authorities in Frankfurt, Germany, where he had been sent to murder an anti-Communist Russian. He has appealed to the Russians to release his wife and son and allow them to join him in America.—Reuterphoto.

No British Troops For Indo-China Says Aneurin Bevan

Leeds, Yorkshire, May 2.

Mr. Aneurin Bevan, leader of the left-wing of the Labour Party, said today Britain should tell the United States that "we are not prepared to send one soldier to Indo-China to support French imperialism."

He told a May Day rally: "It would have been much better if that had been said to the United States much earlier."

"Men's lives would have been saved and the Geneva conference would have been much easier if America and not been allowed to believe that whatever she said Britain would back."

Mr. Bevan contended that unless the richer Governments of West were prepared to spend more on raising the standard of living of backward people, "nothing will stop the revolutionists from spending more or stopping us reaching the edge of a third world war."

Mr. Bevan claimed that "there have always been divisions of opinion in the Labour Party." This was a reference to the state of the Party following his resignation from the Labour "shadow cabinet" in Parliament through disagreements with the leadership.

He said there was a difference of opinion in the governing Conservative Party.

Referring to 85,000 British troops in the Suez Canal zone, he said 35 to 40 Conservative Members of Parliament had told the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, that if he dared to evacuate them, they would vote against their own Party.

Mr. Bevan said it cost Britain £85,000,000 a year to keep troops in the Canal zone, yet "there is not a single high ranking military authority in Great Britain who will come forward to say that they are of any military value at all."

"They are only there because Sir Winston Churchill is an old fashioned early 19th century

imperialist who won't face the obligation of calling them back home."

Mr. Harold Wilson, a Bevanite supporter, who took over Mr. Bevan's vacancy in the Labour "shadow cabinet," told a Manchester rally that Britain must not join or encourage the formation of anti-Communist alliance in Asia.

"I believe at the moment the danger to a negotiated settlement in Asia is provided by the lunatic fringe in the American Senate—those who want to destroy Communist China, those who want to embark on a holy crusade against Communism and those who think that the interests of the people of Asia will be served by putting all the resources of modern warfare behind French imperialism in Indo-China," he said.—Reuter.

GAITSKELL'S VIEW

Hull, May 3.

Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night that complete freedom for Indo-China was long overdue.

"These people must be given their independence just as we gave India her independence," he told a May Day demonstration.

He said he had come back from the Commonwealth conference of the Royal Institute of International Affairs in Pakistan with the deep conviction that the principles of Commonwealth unity were the ideals of the Labour movement in Britain.

NO DIFFERENCE

He thought there was no real difference in the fundamental principles of the Labour foreign policy.

It must be the foreign policy of any Socialist Government to bring freedom and democracy to all the peoples of the world.

In a reference to the recent disagreement within the party on German reparations and the subsequent resignation of left-winger Aneurin Bevan from the party's shadow cabinet, Mr. Gaitskell said that the Labour Party believed in people thinking for themselves.

It was not a Socialist party, he said, but a party which was difficult to lead. He said many of the things that were said in the party were not what he himself would have said. He said there should be a difference of opinion.—Reuter.

Plans For Town In New Forest For 40,000 Londoners

London.

Planning officers of the Socialist-controlled London County Council and the Hampshire County Council, which has an Independent majority, will have talks within the next few days on proposals to build an over-spill town of 40,000 people in the heart of the New Forest, according to London reports.

They may discuss methods of overcoming the strong opposition of the local council. This body has voted against having anything further to do with the scheme.

The Hampshire authorities are in favour of some form of new town, but alternative sites may be proposed.

An official of the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council said: "We know that the further talks are taking place despite our opposition. We shall watch the developments closely."

This is the latest development in the relentless efforts of the L.C.C. to house its over-spill population.

The tentacles of the London octopus are wriggling and searching over an area mainly within a radius of 100 miles from County Hall.

In some cases it has been the L.C.C. which has made the first approach. In others the local council, hearing of the efforts of London to find space, have made offers to the authority.

Nantwich, in Cheshire, which was well beyond the distance London contemplated moving people, made such an approach and talks were held.

Recently the Minister of Housing said this was too far away, and the scheme has been dropped.

Under the expanded towns scheme it is hoped to move some 350,000 people, together with industry to support them, to outlying areas, some very remote from London, within the next 20 years.

MINISTER'S ROLE

The council hopes to achieve agreement with the local authority and proceed on a friendly basis. If it meets opposition, or if the local or county authority meets individual opposition, an appeal can be made to Mr. Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government.

At Swindon last week a compulsory purchase order was confirmed for the council to obtain 245 acres of valuable farm land for housing 5,000 people from London under the over-spill scheme.

It is probable that Swindon will later this year make attempts to acquire a further 700 acres.

The L.C.C.'s approach was rejected at Edenbridge by the Conservative-controlled Kent County Council, which has refused permission for development there. There is a strong feeling that London will, at a later date, appeal to the Minister.

The Kent authorities are prepared to fight and to stage a strong case in support of their refusal. They claim that

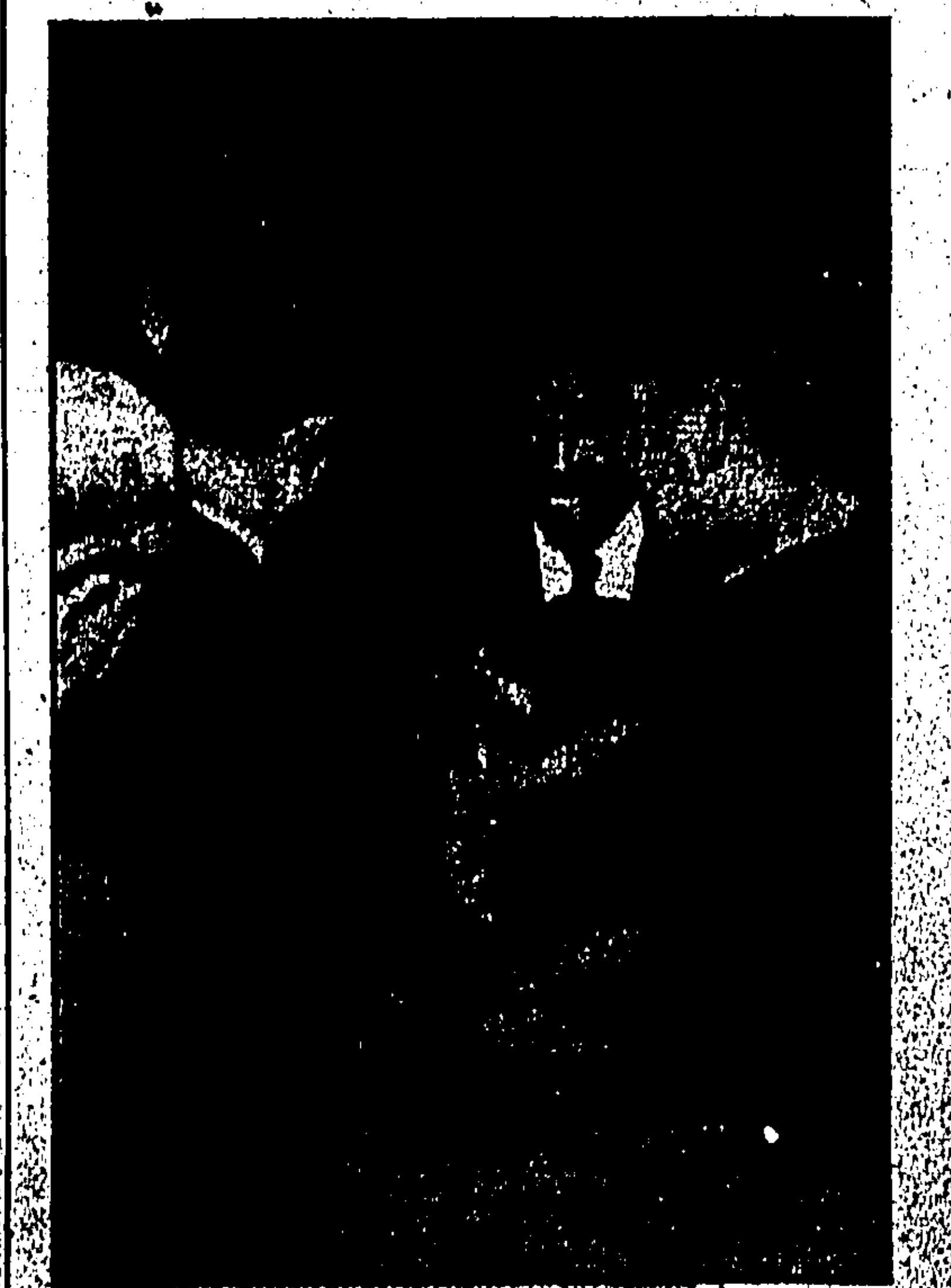
Restitution Sought For Victims

Munch, May 2.

Two hundred former Nazi party officials and members of an "Association of Denazification Victims," at a rally here today, demanded "moral, legal and economic restitution" for people interned after the war and dealt with by denazification courts.

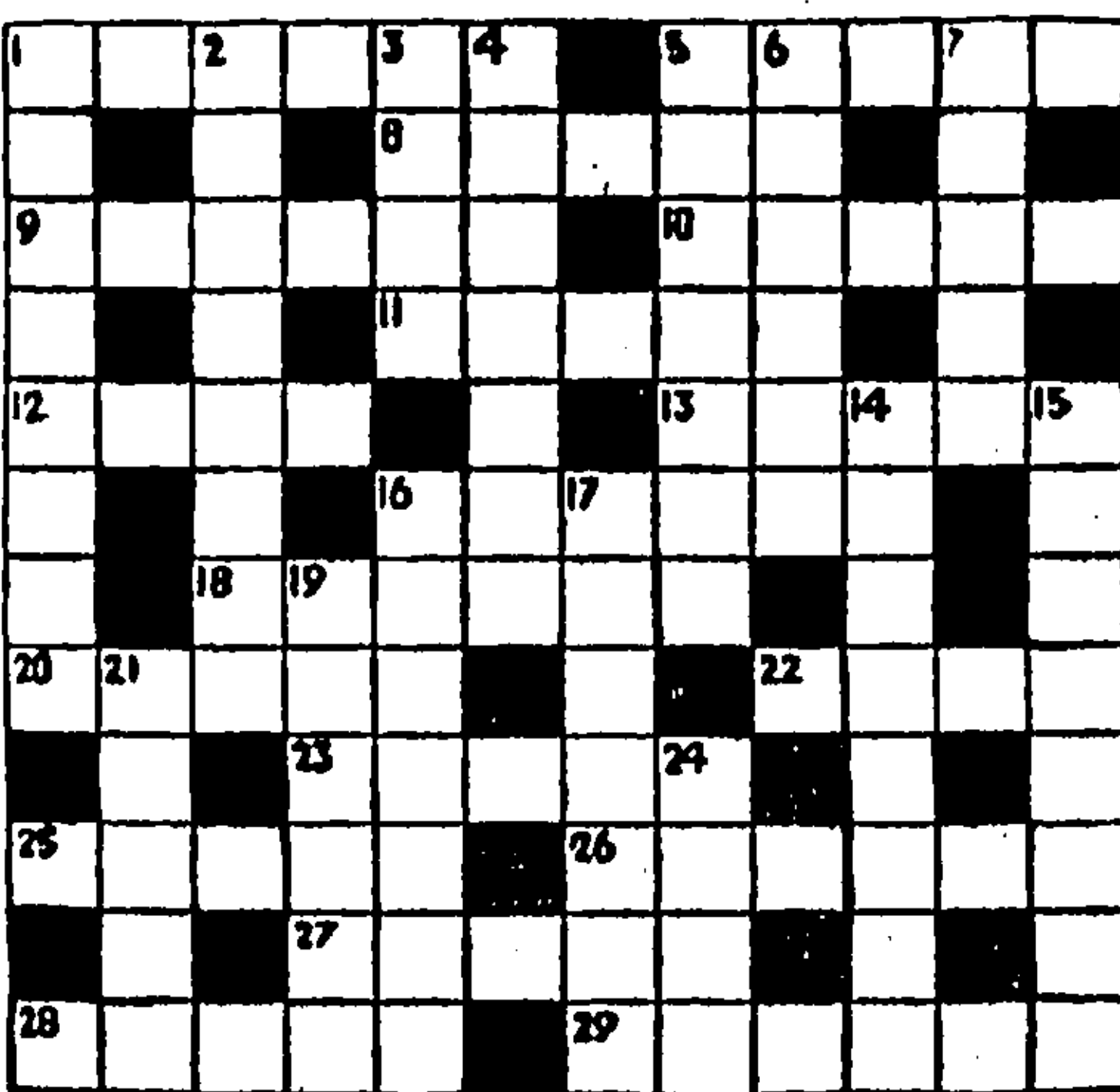
The Chairman of the Association of the Bavarian branch suggested that the restitution should be financed by a 50 per cent tax on all capital acquired between 1945 and 1949.—Reuter.

South Korean Minister At Geneva



The South Korean Minister, Mr. Kim, (center) speaking at Geneva on the 10th anniversary of the Korean War. He is flanked by the British and American Ministers.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Substrate (6).
- 5 Amusing (5).
- 8 Musical instrument (5).
- 9 Carry on again (6).
- 10 Weight (5).
- 11 Humble (5).
- 12 Rescue (4).
- 13 Felony (6).
- 14 Kind of wool (6).
- 18 Animal (6).
- 20 Twangy (6).
- 22 Yearn (4).
- 23 Mixed rain and snow (5).
- 25 Torrent (6).
- 26 Heavenly (6).
- 27 Space (5).
- 28 Nicknames (6).
- 29 Proper time (6).

DOWN

- 1 Scorn (8).
- 2 Disown (8).
- 3 Stupor (4).
- 4 Voices (7).
- 6 Festive carousal (7).
- 8 Oblige to live within limits of country (6).
- 7 Dance (6).
- 14 Books by petition (8).
- 15 Number (8).
- 16 Used in croquet (7).
- 17 Withdraws (7).
- 19 Church festival (6).
- 21 Sufficient (8).
- 24 Weary (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 8 Lamb, 7 Burst, 8 Inns, 9 Haul, 10 Cabaret, 12 Last, 15 Power, 18 Leaf, 19 Array, 21 Amble, 22 Obed, 23 Timid, 25 Eggs, 29 Deduced, 30 Kib, 31 Mail, 32 Merit, 33 Fort, Down: 1 Rust, 2 Reckless, 4 Abate, 5 Bill, 6 Onus, 9 Howl, 11 Root, 13 Air, 14 Tort, 16 Rigid, 17 Race, 18 Ling, 20 Redness, 22 Omen, 24 Idler, 25 Sepia, 27 Quay, 28 Skip.

THE NEAPOLITANS ARE POOR, BUT THEY ARE HAPPY

By Bernard Ronald

SUNSHINE, song and alums, shared by huge families, in the setting in Naples, this city of romance — and life in the raw.

The average Neapolitan, it would seem, is a freak of nature. He is desperately poor (and I mean desperately) with little or no prospects of enjoying a reasonable standard of living. Yet this average Neapolitan is, nevertheless, as happy as the proverbial sandfly.

The first thing I noticed when I arrived in Naples was that our Neapolitan sings all day to his work, he serenades the stars over a glass of wine in the evening and, as he and his colleagues make merry with their mandolins and guitars, the watching tourists must think (and do think) that the Neapolitans haven't a care in the world.

Yet the average earnings of the Neapolitan breadwinner are less than £4 a week—about 13 shillings a day—to keep families which, more often than not, run into double figures. To keep them, what is more, in a country where meat is 7 shillings a pound and a 2 lb. loaf costs 5d.

Four out of every ten men in this port of over one million inhabitants are unemployed. They cannot find a steady job in an office or factory because there are too few industries in an area where agriculture is the main occupation.

Bubbling Over

Yet the Neapolitan is a gay signor, bubbling over with the joy of living, wearing a smile as broad as his sunbanned face.

Living in misery does not stop him from being merry. Yet how many millions of other Europeans who are much better off go through life with a melancholy air, a semi-frown constantly on their faces? If we see a man singing at the top of his voice in a street in Britain we think he is "off his nut" and the police would probably keep a careful eye on him, while even his closest friends would start to worry about his mental state.

Just why the Neapolitan is so gay and carefree is a question which baffles the psychologists. It seems he is born with melody and mirth, just as he is born with an olive skin and black curly hair. Certainly good spirits are infectious in this picturesque town of white houses, flanked by the grandeur of Vesuvius where the sky is azure, the Mediterranean a very deep blue and the panorama is bathed in bright, warm sunshine.

Little wonder the town produced a singer like Caruso, and no wonder at all why Neapolitan songs are famous the world over. Nor, as one watches the flashing-eyed signorinas twirling to the "Tarantella", while mandolin music floats across the Bay, does one wonder that romance blooms here like a perennial flower.

In fact, it might be said to be a special product of Naples — as much part and parcel of the daily scene as the catches of fish at the port, the tomatoes growing on the hills or the vineyards and the old world churches.

Naples is a "must" for all Italian honeymooners, whether they come from Indurina, Milan, art-loving Florence, or Rome the capital. It attracts the young and the old, for dozens of British and American army officers, from brigadier-generals to colonels and captains, are living in sunny retirement in villas on the coast.

The Neapolitans are the happiest people in the world. They are also probably the most superstitious.

Their greatest fear is of the "malocchio"—a man with a squint or with a reputation of bringing bad luck to those who cross his path.

Only Protection

I spoke with Salvatore, a husky lorry driver. He had a huge pair of cattle horns on the radiator of his truck and a brightly painted inscription: "God gave us from our adversaries" on the cabin.

He told me: "The only protection against the malocchio are horns, the bigger the better. If I did not have them, a man with a squint would curse me. If I just missed him in one of the narrow streets and that would be the end of me and my lorry."

I went into a bar. There was a pair of horns by the till. They kept the evil eyes of thieves away," the barman told me.

There were more horns in the restaurant and in the garage. Shops do a roaring business with them. Demand is so great they are always in short supply.

Most Neapolitan families live crowded together in tiny one-roomed flats. Space is at a premium. So the women take their washbaths outside and do the family laundry in the street. So do the artisans, the men who make wooden toys, shoes, picture frames and other things at home. The pavements are the business centres of the town. For everything, from fruit to furniture, cutlery to clothing, old paintings to new and used motor cars.

In this town of out-of-doors activity, anything goes. People do just what they like, dress how they like, and sing as loud and as long as they like.

For in Naples life is in the raw. But life is fun at that.

The new exploits of SHERLOCK HOLMES

By ADRIAN CONAN DOYLE and JOHN DICKSON CARR

MADAME Taupin's exhibition is too well known to need any general description. But I was unpleasantly impressed by the tableau called "The History of a Crime." The scenes were most lifelike in both effect and colour, with the wigs and small swords of the eighteenth century. Had I in fact been guilty of those mythical gambling lapses charged upon me by Holmes' ill-timed sense of humour, the display might well have harassed my conscience.

This was especially so when we lowered our heads under the iron railing, and approached the two gamblers in the mimic room.

"Drat it, Nellie, don't touch them cards!" cried Mr. Baxter, much more testy and irascible in his own domain. But his tone changed as he spoke to me. "Look there, sir! There's, he counted slowly, 'there's nine cards in the wicked wrong 'un's hand. And sixteen in the young gentleman's."

"Listen!" whispered the young lady. "Isn't someone walking about upstairs?"

"Drat it, Nellie, it's only Bob Farinip. Who else would it be?"

"As you said, the cards on the table are not much disarranged," I remarked. "Indeed, the small pile in front of your 'young gentleman' is not disarranged at all. Twelve cards lie at his elbow—"

"Ah, and nineteen by the wrong 'un. Funny card game, sir!"

I agreed and, curiously repulsed by the touch of waxen fingers against my own, I put the various sets of playing cards into four marked envelopes, and hastened up from the stuffy den. Miss Baxter and her grandfather, despite the latter's horrified protest, I insisted on sending home in a stray cab whose driver had

"What, you are still in the dark? Then do you take these nine cards, Watson? Put them in the desk in their order, and announce the name of each as you do so."

"Knave of diamonds," said I, placing the cards under the lamp, "seven of hearts, aces of clubs—Good heavens, Holmes!"

"Do you see anything, then?"

"Yes, there are two aces of clubs, one following the other!"

"Did I not call it beautiful? But you have counted only four cards. Proceed with the remaining five."

"And what do you deduce from that?"

"Holmes, I think I see light. Madame Taupin's is a real-life effects. The older wax figure is a brazen gambler, who is depicted as cheating the young man. By a subtle effect, they have shown him as holding false cards for his winning hand."

"Hardly subtle, I fancy. Even so, Watson, would surely feel some embarrassment at putting down a winning hand which contained no less than three knaves of diamonds and three aces of clubs?"

"Yes, there are difficulties."

"Further. If you count all the cards, both those in the hands and upon the table, you will observe that their total number is fifty-six—which is four more than I, at least, am accustomed to use in one pack."

"But what can it mean? What is the answer to our problem?"

"Mind your manners, Mister Detective, when you speak to a gentleman. I could break you in two even if you didn't have a bad ankle, by God!"

Miss Eleanor Baxter, white-faced, uttered a little moaning cry, and seemed to be trying to escape herself against the wall.

"At the mouth of the Thames," he read, "on the sand of—"

just deposited some hopelessly intoxicated gentleman against his own door.

I was not sorry to return to the snug warmth of my friend's sitting-room. To my dismay, however, Holmes had risen from the couch. He was standing by his desk with the green-shaded lamp, eagerly studying an open atlas and supported by a crutch under his right arm.

"Enough, Watson!" he silenced my protests. "You have the envelopes? Good, good! Give them to me. Thank you. In the hand of the older gambler, the wax figure with his back turned, were there not nine cards?"

"Holmes, this is amazing! How could you have known that?"

"Logic, my dear fellow. Now let us see."

"One moment," I said firmly. "You spoke earlier of a crutch, but where could you have obtained one at such short notice? That is an extraordinary crutch. It seems to be constructed of some lightweight metal, and shines where the rays of the lamp—"

Through not so tall as Holmes, he was far broader and heavier; indeed, with a figure not unlike my own. His loud laugh rang out again, and his cunning little eyes flashed, as he held up a leather bag and shook it.

"Here you are, cullity!" cried he. "You're the Scotland Yard man, ain't you? A thousand gold sovereigns, and all yours for the asking!"

Sherlock Holmes, though astonished, regarded him with the utmost composure.

"Sir Gervase Darlington, I think?"

Without paying the slightest notice of either Miss Baxter or myself, the newcomer strode across and rattled the bag of coins under Holmes' nose.

"That's me, Mister Detective!" said he. "Saw you fight yesterday. You could be better, but you'll do. One day, my man, they may make prize-fighting legal. Till they do, a gentleman's got to arrange a neat little mill in secret. Stop a bit, though!"

Suddenly, cat-footed despite his weight, he went to the window and peered down into the street.

"Curse old Philias Belch! He's had a man following me for months. Ay, and two blasted manservants in succession to clean open my letters. Broke the back for one of 'em, though. Sir Gervase's shattering laugh rang again. "Never mind!"

Holmes' face seemed to change; but an instant later he was his cool, imperturbable self as Sir Gervase's shattering laugh rang again. "Never mind!"

"Why was this done? It was not because someone wished to play a practical joke, in creating the illusion that wax dummies were occupied in reckless gambling. Had that been the culprit's motive, he would have moved the imitation gold coins as well as the cards. But the coins were not moved."

"The true answer is simple and indeed obvious. There are twenty-six letters in our alphabet, and twenty-six twice multiplied, gives us fifty-two; the number of cards in a pack. Supposing that we were arbitrarily to choose one card for each letter, we could easily make a childish, elementary form of substitution-cipher."

Sir Gervase Darlington's metal laugh blared shrilly.

"You're the Scotland Yard, ain't you? You comprey English, don't you?"

"When I hear it spoken, yes."

"That's a joke, hey? Well, so is this!"

Playfully, deliberately, his heavy left fist whipped out a round-arm which passed as it was meant to pass—just as each in front of my friend's nose. Holmes did not even blink. Again Sir Gervase roared with laughter.

"Mind your manners, Mister Detective, when you speak to a gentleman. I could break you in two even if you didn't have a bad ankle, by God!"

Miss Eleanor Baxter, white-faced, uttered a little moaning cry, and seemed to be trying to escape herself against the wall.

"Sir Gervase," cried I, "you will kindly refrain from using

Concluding:

THE ADVENTURE OF THE WAX GAMBLERS

"Holmes, my question concerned the answer to our problem."

"This is the answer to our problem."

Though I am the most long suffering of men, I protested strongly when he packed me off upstairs to my old room. I believed that I should get no sleep upon the rack of this mystery, yet I slept heavily, and it was nearly eleven o'clock when I descended to breakfast.

Sherlock Holmes, who had already breakfasted, again sat upon the sofa. I was glad of my clean, fresh shave when I found him deep in conversation with Miss Eleanor, whose timidity was lessened by his easy manner.

Yet something in the gravity of his face arrested my hand as I rang the bell for rashers and eggs.

"Miss Baxter," said he, "though there still remains an objection to my hypothesis, the time has come to tell you something of great importance. But what the devil—"

Our door had suddenly dashed open. To be precise, it was kicked open with a crash. But this had been done only as a jest by the man who kicked it, for his loud, overbust burst of laughter rang like a broken trumpet.

In the aperture stood a burly, red-faced gentleman with a shining hat, a costly frockcoat open over a white waistcoat to show the diamonds on his watch-guard, and the single flaming ruby in his cravat.

Though not so tall as Holmes, he was far broader and heavier; indeed, with a figure not unlike my own. His loud laugh rang out again, and his cunning little eyes flashed, as he held up a leather bag and shook it.

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"Sir Gervase," cried I, "you will kindly refrain from using

offensive language in the presence of a lady."

Instantly our guest turned round, and looked me up and down in a most insolent manner.

"Who's this? Watson? Saw-bones feller? Oh! Suddenly he thrust his beefy red face into mine. "I know anything about boxin'?"

"No," said I. "That is—not much."

"Then see you don't get a lesson," retorted Sir Gervase playfully, and roared with mirth again. "Lady? What lady?" Seeing Miss Baxter, he looked a little disconcerted, but dissected a killing ogle. "No lady, Saw-bones. But a fellerin' little piece, by God!"

"Sir Gervase," said I, "you are now warned for the last time."

"One moment, Watson," interposed the calm voice of Sherlock Holmes. "You must forgive Sir Gervase Darlington. No doubt Sir Gervase has not yet recovered from the visit he paid three days ago to the wax exhibition of Madame Taupin."

"There would be a tremendous killing," said I, "for any gambler who could learn that well-guarded secret and back the horse!"

Sherlock Holmes held up the fan of cards in his left hand.

"My dear Miss Eleanor Baxter," cried he, with a sorrowful sternness, "why did you let Sir Gervase Darlington persuade you to hear that you used the wax exhibition to leave this message—telling Sir Gervase what he wished to know without even speaking to him, writing to him, or approaching within a mile of him?"

"Indeed? and yet, with your sporting proclivities, I feel sure you must be interested in cards."

"Cards?"

"Playing cards," said Holmes blandly, taking some from his dressing gown pocket and holding them up fanwise. "In fact, these nine cards."

"What the devil's all this?"

"It is a singular fact, Sir Gervase, that a casual visitor to the Room of Honors—on passing the gambling tableau—can see the cards in the hand of a certain wax figure without even giving them more than an innocent-appearing glance."

"Now some strange tampering was done one night with these cards. The cards in the hand of the other player, the 'young gentleman,' had not even been touched, as was shown by their dusty and gritty condition. But some person, a certain person, had removed a number of cards from the hand of the so-called 'wrong 'un,' throwing them down on the table, and, further, had added four cards from no less than two extra packs."

"Why was this done? It was not because someone wished to play a practical joke, in creating the illusion that wax dummies were occupied in reckless gambling. Had that been the culprit's motive, he would have moved the imitation gold coins as well as the cards. But the coins were not moved."

"The true answer is simple and indeed obvious. There are twenty-six letters in our alphabet, and twenty-six twice multiplied, gives us fifty-two; the number of cards in a pack. Supposing that we were arbitrarily to choose one card for each letter, we could easily make a childish, elementary form of substitution-cipher."

Sir Gervase Darlington's metal laugh blared shrilly.

"You're the Scotland Yard, ain't you? You comprey English, don't you?"

"When I hear it spoken, yes."

"That's a joke, hey? Well, so is this!"

Playfully, deliberately, his heavy left fist whipped out a round-arm which passed as it was meant to pass—just as each in front of my friend's nose. Holmes did not even blink. Again Sir Gervase roared with laughter.

"Mind your manners, Mister Detective, when you speak to a gentleman. I could break you in two even if you didn't have a bad ankle, by God!"

Miss Eleanor Baxter, white-faced, uttered a little moaning cry, and seemed to be trying to escape herself against the wall.

"Sir Gervase," cried I, "you will kindly refrain from using

"Because already I knew the message itself. You told it to me."

"I told you?"

"Tut, Watson. If these cards represent the letters indicated, we have a double 'e' towards the beginning of the word and a double 's' at the end of it. The first letter of the word, we perceive, must be 'S', and there is an 'e' before the double 's' at the end. No cunning is required to give us the word 'Sheerness.'"

"But what in the world has Sheerness?" I began—

"Geographically, you will find it towards the mouth of the Thames," he interrupted.

"But it is also, you informed me, the name of a horse owned by Lord Howe. Though this horse has been entered for the Grand National, you told me that little is expected of it. But if the horse has been trained with the utmost secrecy as another smashing winner like Bengal Lady—"

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Miss Eleanor Baxter, white-faced, uttered a little moaning cry, and seemed to be trying to escape herself against the wall.

"Sir Gervase," cried I, "you will kindly refrain from using

should you acquire information of value."

"At first the method seemed almost too ingenious. Indeed, I could not understand why you did not merely write to him, until when he arrived here I learned that even his letters are steamed open. The cards were the only possible way. But we have the evidence now—"

"No, by God!" said Sir Gervase Darlington. "You've got no evidence at all!"

His left hand, quick as a striking snake, snatched the cards from Holmes' grasp. As my friend instinctively stood up, the pain in his swollen ankle making him back a cry, Sir Gervase's open right hand drove into Holmes' neck and sent him sprawling back on the sofa.

Again that triumphant laugh rang out.

"Gervase!" pleaded Miss Baxter, clinging her hands. "Please! Don't look at me so! I meant no harm!"

"Oh, no!" said he, with a sneer on his brutal face. "No-o-o! Come here and betray me, would you? Make me jump when I see you, hey? You're no better than you should be, and I'll tell that to anybody who asks. Now stand aside, damn you!"

"Sir Gervase," said I, "already I have warned you for the last time."

"Sawbones interfering, eh?!"

Now, I am the first to admit that it was luck rather than judgment, though perhaps I may add that I am quicker on my feet than my friend's nose. Suffice to say Miss Baxter screamed.

Despite the pain of his ankle Sherlock Holmes again leaped from the sofa.

"By Jove, Watson! A finer left on the mark and right to the head I never witnessed! You've grassed him so hard he will be unconscious for ten minutes!"

"Yet I trust," said I, blowing upon my cracked knuckles, "that poor Miss Baxter has not been unduly distressed by the crash with which he struck the floor? It would also grieve me to alarm Mrs. Hudson, whom I hear approaching with bacon and eggs."

"Good old Watson!"

"Why do you smile, Holmes? Have I said something else of a humorous character?"

"No, no. Heaven forbid! Yet sometimes I suspect that I may be much shaler, and you far more keen than customarily I am wont to believe."

"Your satire is beyond me. However, there is the evidence. But you must not publicly betray even Sir Gervase Darlington, lest you betray Miss Baxter as well!"

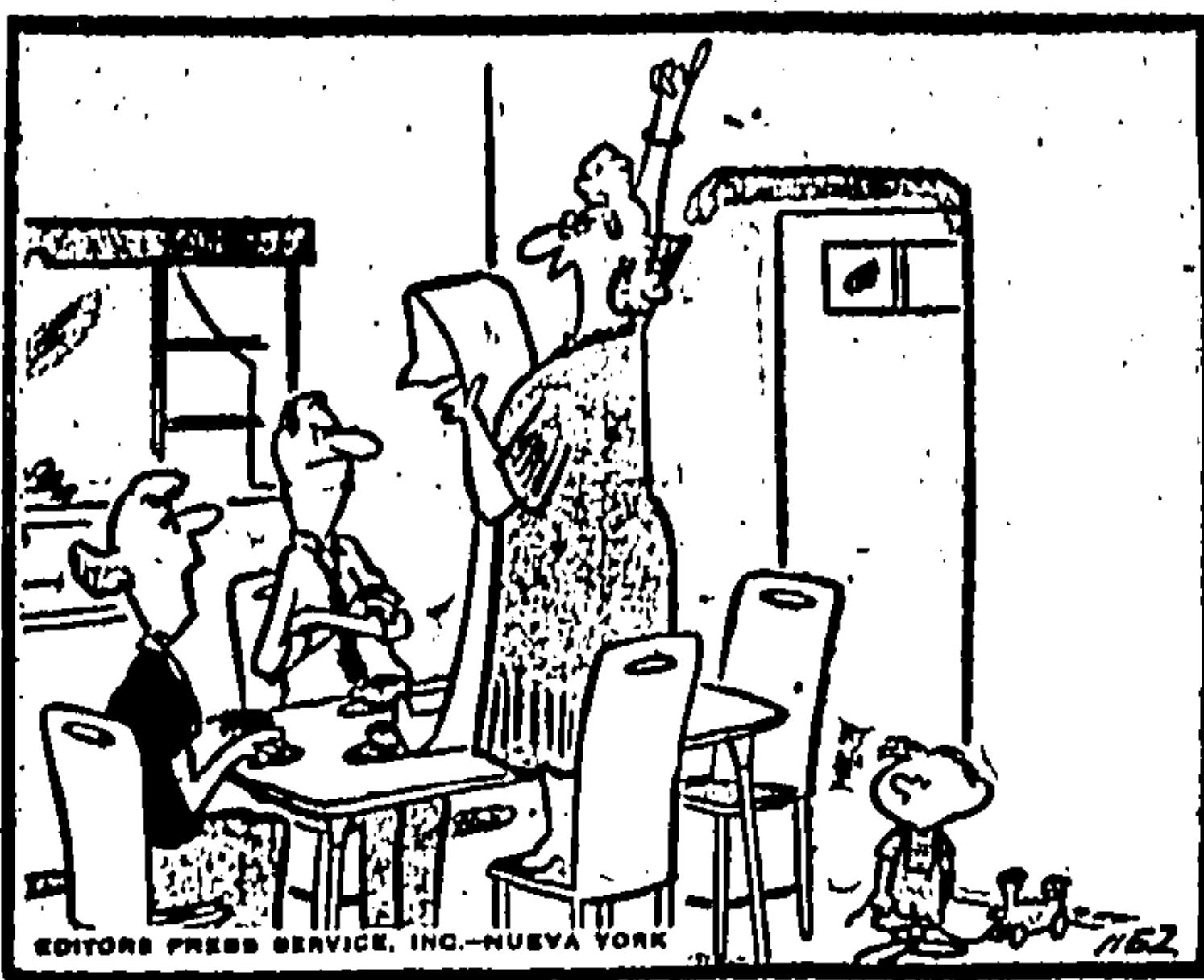
"Humph! I have a score to settle with that gentleman, Watson. His offer to open for me a career as a professional boxer I could not in honesty resent. In its way, it is a great compliment. But to confuse me with a Scotland Yard detective! That was an insult I fear, which I can neither forget nor forgive."

"Holmes, how many favours have I ever asked of you?"

"Well, well, have it as you please. We shall keep the cards only as a last resort, should that sleeping beauty again misbehave. As for Miss Baxter—"

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Oh—well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps as an ancient great-granddame, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century is that, you will have forgotten all about Sir G



"I really wish you wouldn't interfere like this, mother."

• BY • THE • WAY • by Beachcomber

MAKERS of fancy goods are reported to be investigating the anomalies of the purchases tax. They have discovered that the tax on an egg-timer in Leicester is 25 percent, but in Wales 70 percent.

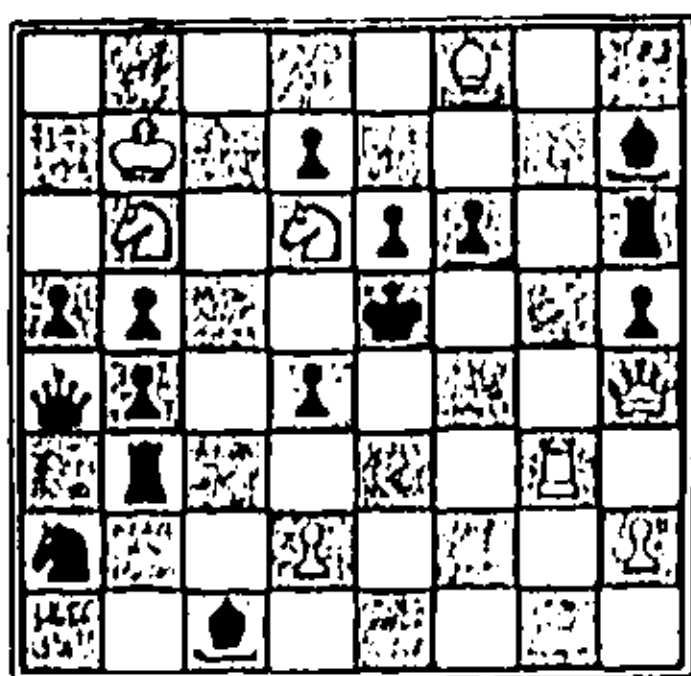
On bowls of shiny flowers in moss the tax is 25 per cent, but if the flowers are not fixed in the moss there is no tax.

Can any official tell me, without looking it up, what the tax on wooden foghorn containers (unvarnished) is in Galahela, and whether horn-zippers less than four inches in diameter are taxed or untaxed in Sidmouth on a wet Thursday in February? In Leominster you may buy tax free a telephone on a Thursday afternoon, if you answer before a 2 P.M. that it is to be used to operate a bottle of non-alcoholic drink for personal consumption, and not to prop up a broken bicycle or wedge open a faulty window in a fish-warehouse within eight statute miles of the town.

CHESS PROBLEM

By A. AKEBLOM

Black, 15 pieces



White, 8 pieces.
White to play; mate in three.

Solution to Saturday's problem:

1. Kt—R1, any; 2. Q, or P mates.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

MONDAY, MAY 3

BORN today, you have excellent judgment, are hopeful and happy about life and usually manage to look on the bright side of things. Your love for all humanity clearly outweighs all your other characteristics. You make sacrifices for others, yet you have a good head for business and usually come out on the right side of the ledger. What is good for others turns out, in the long run, to be good for you, too.

You have excellent taste and could make a career of being an critic if you wished. Your capacity for friendship is great and you will have a large circle of friends.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 20)—Pay attention to private personal matters this evening. Catch up on important letters, writing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)—Don't get impulsively on information which is not authenticated by someone whose opinions you trust.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Keep your ultimate goal in mind. Work hard and each day do your best to reach it.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—True, give attention to the details of work. Yet, don't get too bogged down with non-essentials, either.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Protect your own interests today. If you don't, who will? It's up to you to be alert about it.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Waste no time on things which are not pertinent to your major objective. See that you make real progress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Learn to conserve your energies. Keep proper balance of work and play in your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—Work hard during the daytime hours so that you may reserve the evening for relaxing pleasures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 24-Jan. 20)—If you have constructive ideas, offer them only should you be critical of another's ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—By being natural and genuinely cooperative, you may turn a casual acquaintance into a lifelong friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Tackle the most difficult jobs first, today, and you will find that all else seems easy by comparison.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Holding to a carefully-planned budget may

DUMB-BELLS

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE POUND DEAR!

PERHAPS DIDN'T POUND IT ENOUGH

THE POUND DEAR!

THE POUND DEAR!

THE POUND DEAR!

THE POUND DEAR!

THE POUND DEAR!

THE POUND DEAR!

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

There's Trouble In High Level Bids

NORTH		27
♠ 10 8 4 3		
♥ A Q J 10 2		
♦ K 10 5		
♣ 7		
WEST		EAST (D)
♠ A Q		♠ J
♥ 8		♥ K 10 9 5 3
♦ Q J 10 4		♦ A 8 7 2
♣ 10 4 3 2		♣ A 7 5
SOUTH		
♠ K 10 7 5 2		
♥ 7 4		
♦ 3		
♣ K Q 10 6		
East-West vul.		
East	South	West
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By OSWALD JACOBY

EVEN experts have trouble with hands in which both sides bid to a high level. It becomes difficult to tell which side the hand really "belongs" to, and it becomes equally difficult to tell when your side gets out of its depth.

To put it specifically, the question is: Should you double, pass, or bid some more?

When you try to answer this question, you must consider many different factors: what you think the opponents can make, what you think your side can make, the suitability of your hand for offense and for defense.

If you are the last person to speak, you must make a decision; but if the bidding will surely give your partner another chance to speak, you must avoid definite action with an indefinite set of hand.

The point is illustrated in today's hand. South has a perfectly sound overall of one spade. North's jump to four spades was a bit on the sporting side, but quite reasonable. South would be able to make four spades with many hands that were just minimum overcalls of one spade; and if the enemy decided to bid five of either red suit, North was ready for them.

East's bid of five diamonds was a stab. He couldn't tell whether or not four spades could be made, but he decided to believe the opponents. It was clear that five diamonds couldn't be badly hurt.

When East took a stab at five diamonds there was no need for South to do anything at all. If South had held more defensive strength, he could double. If South had held all of his strength in spades and none elsewhere, he could properly bid five spades. With his actual hand the right course was to sit back and let North make the decision. North would have been happy to double, of course, and the contract of five diamonds would have been defeated.

When South tried to bid for his partner as well as for himself, he was justly punished. He doubled, and the contract of five spades was set three tricks for a penalty of 500 points.

There wasn't much to the play. West opened his singleton heart, and dummy won with the ace. Declarer tackled the trumps at once, and West took his two trump tricks. West then led the queen of diamonds. There was no way for South to prevent the loss of a diamond, a club, and a heart in addition to the two trump tricks.

At any rate, there they were today, sitting under the Cherry Tree in Ting-a-Ling's garden, talking about all sorts of things.

Invention of Grass

"Now I wonder," Ting-a-Ling said, "whether I ever told you the story of how grass was invented."

Knarf and Hanid replied in astonishment that they never knew that anyone had ever invented grass at all. "I always thought it just grew," said Hanid.

"It does," said Ting-a-Ling. "At least that's what it does now. But the story goes that grass was once invented. And this is how it came about."

Ting-a-Ling made himself comfortable. He passed the bowl of cherries around to Knarf and Hanid, helped himself to some, and finally began.

Long, Long Ago

"It was long, long ago when the world that we see now was young. There were trees and plants and bushes—and vines and blossoms and spiders and Acorns and chestnuts and pine needles and pine cones—in fact, there was everything that we see now. And there was a little boy named Ting-a-Ling who lived in a little house in a little village in a little country in a little world."

★ ★ WOMANSENSE ★ ★ Your Feet Need Frequent Glamour Treatment



A DRY STONE works wonders in removing hair from legs. Rub it over the leg with a circular motion. Use once or twice a week.

By Helen Follett

SOME of the new dress slippers consist of little more than a thin, flexible leather sole and a few straps of gleaming gold kid. Hosiery is delicate and sheer.

Both shoe and stocking styles show off your feet. This means a frequent pedicure is an important part of the beauty programme.

Trim your toenails before your bath, not afterwards. Clippers are better than scissors. If you use scissors have curved ones of strong steels.

After a bath, the cuticle surrounding the toenails will be soft, in condition for treatment. Apply a cuticle cream, use the orangewood stick to lift the flesh away from the nail base. If you

Apply your nail polish in a thin coat. Let it dry, then put on another one. When doing this, place cotton pads between your toes so that the polish will not run down between them.

When you beautifully your feet, give your legs a glamour treatment, too. Sheer hose show them up. Make sure you remove hair so legs will look smooth and attractive.

Sisters Send Chrysanthemum Seeds Globally To Spread Goodwill...

New York. A SHOWER of chrysanthemum seeds is being strewn in gardens from Israel to Manila from the skyscraper heights of New York's Chrysler Building.

Two sisters who believe that flowers can be the language of international love, as well as romantic affection, are sending the seeds to governments, schools, garden clubs and any other civic-minded group desiring to share chrysanthemum beauty.

HOW IT STARTED

A project that started as a memorial to their mother has become a global flower growing programme—and the seeds are from an especially hardy strain of "mum" developed on the Illinois shore of Lake Michigan and packaged in an office in the Chrysler Tower.

Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, widow of the pioneer advertising man and one-time chairman of the U. S. Shipping Board, and her sister, Mrs. Allmon Fordyce, have been distributing the "mum" seeds for 10 years. And

the project has given them nothing except satisfaction. Their mother, Mrs. Sara J. Woodward, devoted much of her life to persuading officials of various cities to establish parks. After her death, they decided that they would beautify New York parks in her memory. A university of Chicago botanist had perfected a new, hardy strain of chrysanthemum on the Lasker's Lake Forest, Ill., estate, and enough plants to bear 2,000,000 brightly-hued blossoms were transplanted to New York and placed in five park areas for public enjoyment.

Every year, the park department gives Mrs. Lasker and Mrs. Fordyce the seeds from the dead "mum" blossoms. They package them and send them to flower lovers the world over.

ONE STIPULATION The chrysanthemum donors have only one stipulation: No seeds are sent to individuals for planting in private gardens. The seeds must be used for community projects or be planted where anyone can pause to look at the blooms.

"When we first started, we sent seeds to hospitals, institutions and park departments," Mrs. Fordyce said. "Now we send them to any group that wants them for a worthwhile cause. We have a planting at Windsor castle and at a London home for the aged. There is one in Caracas, and garden clubs all over Chile are planting our seeds."

SEEDS SOWN WIDELY The average packet sent by the sisters contains enough seeds for a half-acre planting of "mums." One planting can lead to many others, as in a Rhode Island city, where a garden club has established a chrysanthemum "bank." Three or four women plant the seeds and get the plants started and then distribute them around the city.

"Mums" are autumn-blooming flowers and must be planted before the end of April. This year's shipments of seeds have gone to a woman convict who wants a prison garden, the Syracuse, N. Y., airport, an upstate New York Catholic retreat, and various groups throughout the world.

"We not only get letters from people requesting seeds," Mrs. Fordyce said, "but the amazing thing is how many people are willing to take the trouble to write afterwards and thank us and tell us how beautiful the flowers were."—United Press.

NEW WAYS WITH EVERYDAY FOOD

MEALTIME miscellany today, leading off with a recipe for delicious sweet potato balls.

Combine 2 c. mashed sweet potatoes with 1 beaten egg, 2 tsp. sugar and 1/4 tsp. salt. Shape into 4 to 6 balls, putting 1 tsp. of peanut butter in the centre of each.

Roll balls in cracker meal, coating well. Fry in deep hot fat (375° F.) until delicately browned. Drain on absorbent paper and serve.

Meat Loaf again, yes, but glamourised with a stuffing. Combine and mix well, 1 1/2 lb. veal and 8 oz. pork, both ground, 2 tsp. salt, 2 tsp. minced onion, 1/4 tsp. pepper, 1 tsp. sage, 1 tsp. prepared mustard, 2 tsp. finely chopped green pepper, a grated garlic bud, 2 finely rolled shredded wheat biscuits, 1/2 c. ketchup, 1/2 c. milk and 1 beaten egg.

Line bottom and sides of greased loaf pan with mixture. Fill centre with stuffing. Cover with remaining meat mixture, pressing firmly. Bake at 350° F. for 1 hour. Serves 8.

To prepare stuffing, combine and mix well, 3 finely rolled shredded wheat biscuits, 1/2 c. minced onion and chopped celery leaves, 1/4 tsp. pepper, 2 tsp. melted butter and 1/4 c. hot water.

Butterscotch Rice Pudding is a good choice to finish off a meal that is a little on the light side.

To serve 6, wash 1/3 c. rice and cook until nearly tender in double boiler with 2 c. scalded milk and 1/4 tsp. salt. Meanwhile, in a shallow pan, cook together 2 tsp. butter and 1 c. brown sugar until mixture becomes very dark brown but not burnt. Add this to rice and milk, and finish cooking until tender and caramelized. Pour 1/2 c. cold water in bowl, sprinkle 1 tsp. plain gelatin on top of water; add 1 c. hot milk, stirring until dissolved. Add gelatin to rice mixture and turn into mould that has been rinsed in cold water; chill.

When firm, unmould and serve plain, or with whipped cream or fruit sauce. Serves 6.

— Alice Denhoff

A Chic Chick



EASTER CHICKS have inspired this new spring cut in two shades of blonde. It is a softer, more feminine version of the old Easter crop.

The very short hair is set in reverse curls and brushed up to fall over the forehead. At the back the short hair is brushed up away from the nape of the neck.

Glamour can be added by tinting the front curls with a special rinse—ash for a golden blonde, gold for a red-head, or silver for a brunette—and for evening you can dress it up with a cap of real flowers. (London Express Service)

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Here's How Grass Was Invented

—At Least, According to Ting-a-Ling's Story—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, were sitting under a cherry tree in Ting-a-Ling's sunny garden. Ting-a-Ling lived at the bottom of the Blue China Plate but only Knarf and Hanid, who could make themselves small, were able to get inside the Blue China Plate and find Ting-a-Ling's house and garden.

At any rate, there they were today, sitting under the Cherry Tree in Ting-a-Ling's garden, talking about all sorts of things.

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Long, Long Ago

"It was long, long ago when the world that we see now was young. There were trees and plants and bushes—and vines and blossoms and spiders and Acorns and chestnuts and pine needles and pine cones—in fact, there was everything that we see now. And there was a little boy named Ting-a-Ling who lived in a little house in a little village in a little country in a little world."

tiny green snippets... snippets of cloth and snippets of thread, all green. And at the end of the year, there were so many of these green snippets that there was hardly room in the tiny shop for the tailor to work.

"I've got to invent something," the little tailor said. "I've got to get rid of all these green snippets. I can't throw them away or burn them because that would be wasteful. I must do something with my needles."

A Sewing Job

"So," said Ting-a-Ling, "this little tailor got some very thin clear thread from the spiders and threaded his needle with it. It was a very special needle, thinner and finer and sharper than any needle in the whole world. And one day, one fast as lightning, he sewed all the millions and millions of green snippets together into something that looked like a carpet. But it was the most enormous carpet that anyone had ever seen."

"This

JAPAN AND INDIA TAKE THE LEAD

As Eight New Records Were Set Up On First Day Of Asian Games

Manila, May 2.

The Japan and India delegations proved today they were the teams to beat in the Second Asian Games.

The two teams captured the lion's share of honours in the track and field final events while placing the majority of their athletes in the trials. Nationalist China and South Korea showed surprising power in the same events.

Asian Games records were smashed in eight of the 11 track and field events today by at least 22 different competitors.

India's athletes won Gold Medals in the 100-metre dash and the running high jump, while Japan took one Gold Medal in the running broad jump and three second places.

South Korea's Choi Yun Chul was the only outsider to win a first place from the Japanese and Indians, smashing the Asian Games' record in the 1,500-metre run with a time of 3 mins. 30.2 secs.

Japan, China and Korea also won their first basketball contests as did defending Asian Games champion Philippines.

Japan humbled Indonesia 61-40 and Korea beat little trouble defeating Cambodia 80-48. The Philippines downed Singapore 82-53. China beat Thailand 73-40.

Japan's wrestlers won all six of their semi-final elimination matches.

HOME SOCCER FINAL STANDINGS

London, May 2.
Final positions in the English and Scottish football leagues are:

League Division 1

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 2

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 3

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 4

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 5

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 6

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

League Division 7

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	42	23	10	9	66	57	57
Blackburn Rovers	42	22	9	11	60	53	53
Manchester United	42	20	11	11	58	49	51
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Utd	42	18	12	12	55	44	48
Sheff Wed	42	18	12	12	55	44	48

South Korea's Choi had to turn the speed on in the final 25 metres of the 1,500-metre run to beat out Yoshitaka Muroya from Japan who was right on his heels with a time of 3:18.40. One second behind him was Japan's Michio Ueki with 3:19.

A DISAPPOINTMENT

The running high jump was a disappointment to the fans because they thought a new Asian Games record would be set this year with all the talents available.

The winning jump of 6 ft 4 1/4 inches by India's Ajeet Singh, however, may later be declared a new record over the old mark of 6 ft 4 3/4 inches.

The discus throw was a different story, however, with the first five winners all smashing the old Asian Games mark of 130 ft 10 1/4 ins. set in New Delhi in 1951.

First-place Parduman Singh of India tossed the discus 142 ft 3 3/4 ins.

All but four Japanese men runners qualified for the semi-finals in the dash and running events. Everyone of the Japanese girls runners qualified for the semi-finals.—United Press.

Reuter reports ten Asian records fell in sensational triumphs by India, Pakistan, Japan and South Korea in the first day of track and field events.

The Indians struck top form and had two of four final events to their credit when the day finished. With both their wins in discus throw and running high jump, the new Indian champions of Asia set records.

Japan took the final in the running broad jump and the South Korea champion, Chi Yun-chul, established another record of 3 mins. and 50-1/2 seconds in the 1,500-metre run final.

Other new Asian Games records were set up by Abdul Kadir of Pakistan in a thrilling 100-metre dash and by Japan in trials of the women's 100-metre dash, 400-metre dash, women's 80-metre hurdles and women's 200-metre dash.

Pakistan's Sharif Butt clipped 4/10 of a second off India's previous 22-second record in the 200-metre trials for men.

Experts said the performances showed all round improvement in Asian athletic standards.

UNEXPECTED FEAT

An unexpected feat by Singapore came in the second heat of the women's 80-metre hurdle trials, when Tang Pei-wah beat the Asian Games record by winning her heat in 12-1/10 seconds, two seconds better than Yoneda Kyodo's time for Japan at New Delhi in 1951. But Tang had bad luck. In the early heat, Japan's Michio Iwamoto won in 12 seconds.

The results of yesterday's events, as reported by Reuter, were:

TRACK & FIELD

110 metres hurdles (trials)—Heat 1 (two qualifiers for the second round)—Yoshitaka Muroya (Japan) 1:50.4 secs.; L. O. Valberg (Singapore) 1:51.4 secs.; S. Sarwan Singh (India) 1:52.4 secs.; T. Kishimoto (Japan) 1:53.4 secs.

100 metres (trials, three of six qualifying for second round)—Heat 1—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.2 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.3 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.4 secs.

Heat 2—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.5 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.6 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.7 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.8 secs.

Heat 3—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 12.9 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.0 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.2 secs.

Heat 4—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.3 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.4 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.5 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.6 secs.

Heat 5—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.7 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.8 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 13.9 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.0 secs.

Heat 6—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.2 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.3 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.4 secs.

Heat 7—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.5 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.6 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.7 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.8 secs.

Heat 8—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 14.9 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.0 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.2 secs.

Heat 9—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.3 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.4 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.5 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.6 secs.

Heat 10—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.7 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.8 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 15.9 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.0 secs.

Heat 11—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.2 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.3 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.4 secs.

Heat 12—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.5 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.6 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.7 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.8 secs.

Heat 13—M. Kadir (Pakistan) 16.9 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 17.0 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 17.1 secs.; M. Kadir (Pakistan) 17.2 secs.

The Standings

Manila, May 2.
In the United Press unofficial team scoring for the Second Asian Games, Japan led with 89 points followed by India with 85, China with 15, South Korea with 12, the Philippines with 10, and Singapore and Indonesia with one each.

In the unofficial scoring system 10 points is given for each first place in the final, five for second, four for third, three for fourth, two for fifth and one for sixth.—United Press.

DAVIS CUP RESULTS

The Hague, May 2.
Spain completed a 4-1 win over the Netherlands today in the Davis Cup European zone first round tie.

They meet Italy in the second round. In today's remaining singles, E. Martinez (Spain) beat F. Dehner (Netherlands) 6-3, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 and 6-3, and L. Kriz (Netherlands) beat J. Drayer (Spain) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 and 6-4.—Reuter.

EGYPT WINS

Cairo, May 2.
Egypt completed a 4-1 victory over Turkey in their first round European zone Davis Cup match here today. They next oppose Sweden.

In today's singles, F. Adel (Egypt) beat A. Cevanshi (Turkey) 6-3, 6-3 and 6-0 and S. Gurel (Turkey) beat A. Cobas (Egypt) 7-5, 7-5, 6-7, 2-6 and 7-5.—Reuter.

MONACO ELIMINATED

Monte Carlo, May 2.
Yugoslavia gained a winning 3-0 lead over Monaco in the first round of the European zone Davis Cup tie here today when they won the doubles.

J. Palada and V. Petrovic (Yugoslavia) beat A. Noghes and S. Pasquier (Monaco) 6-2, 6-2 and 9-7.

In the next round, Yugoslavia will meet Belgium, 1953 zone champions.—Reuter.

HUNGARY LEADS

Budapest, May 2.
Hungary gained a 2-0 lead over New Zealand on the opening day of their first round European zone Davis Cup tie here today.

A. Adam (Hungary) beat M. Barry (New Zealand) 6-3, 6-3 and 8-6 and J. Asborth (Hungary) beat J. Robson (New Zealand) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 and 6-0. Winners of the tie meet Germany.—Reuter.

Singapore Prepares For Third Asian Table-Tennis Tourney

Preparations are being made for the Third Asian Table-Tennis Championships to be held in Singapore from November 20 through 28 in the Colby's badminton hall.

Some 10 countries are expected to compete in this year's contest with Japan as the heavy favourite to win.

The Japanese table-tennis team recently started sports enthusiasts at the 21st World Championship at Wembley by walking off with both the Swarthmore and Corbiell Cups.

It was the second team in history to accomplish the feat. The United States was the first to win both cups in Baden, Austria, in 1937.

Local experts are gloomy about Singapore's prospects of winning against Japanese champions Inchiro Ogimura and Yoshika Tanaka. The British Colony's hopes rest with Hongkong players Baguio Wong and Chen Yee-shing.

Giving additional power to Japan's undisputed claim as favourite this year will be the playing of K. Watanabe, F. Eguchi and H. Goto.

Because of the overwhelming strength of this year's overseas opposition, Singapore's Table-Tennis Association is making every effort to whip the Singapore team into shape early.

Fourteen events have been arranged for this year's Singapore Championships which are scheduled to be held at the end of May.

Following that will be the Malayan Championships to be held for the August Bank Holiday between July 30 and August 2 at Singapore.—United Press.

Having won his semi-final against K. Kawai this morning, Ogimura fell and sprained his knee in a mixed doubles match. Though the injury was considered not serious by a doctor, Kawai had to withdraw for the final.

Results of exhibition matches were: Men's singles: K. Kawai beat K. Tanaka 15-21, 21-15 and 22-20. K. Tanaka beat F. Tanaka 21-17, 15-21 and 22-20. Women's singles: F. Tanaka beat K. Tanaka 21-10 and 21-11. K. Watanabe beat Y. Tanaka 21-14 and 21-13.

Men's doubles: Tanaka and K. Kawai beat Tanaka and C. N. Sato (India) 21-7 and 21-7. Women's doubles: Tanaka and K. Kawai beat Tanaka and C. N. Sato (India) 21-7 and 21-7.

Men's singles: K. Kawai beat K. Tanaka 15-21, 21-15 and 22-20. K. Tanaka beat F. Tanaka 21-17, 15-21 and 22-20. Women's singles: F. Tanaka beat K. Tanaka 21-10 and 21-11. K. Watanabe beat Y. Tanaka 21-14 and 21-13.

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IOC MEETING TO DISCUSS WHETHER NEXT OLYMPIAD BE STAGED AT MELBOURNE

London, May 2.

Members of the International Olympic Committee have some major problems to tackle during the next two weeks in their meetings in Lausanne and Athens.

The sessions open in Lausanne on May 3 with a meeting of the six-man Executive Committee presided over by Mr Avery Brundage of the United States. The following two days, representatives of the international federations of all Olympic sports will meet the Executive Committee to discuss their problems.

The Executive Committee will be told what these federations feel about streamlining the games and how they react to eliminating certain events, notably those affecting teams.

One of the bodies to which they will pay special attention is the International Equestrian Federation for the equestrian events in the next Olympiad. They are expected to provide the hottest discussions during the full Olympic Congress in Athens.

Indeed it is possible for the 1956 summer games still to be taken away from Melbourne on the question of these equestrian events.

For seven days, there will be meetings in Athens. The first three will be occupied by sessions between the Executive Committee and representatives of the National Olympic Committees. More than 40 nations are expected to be represented.

They will not only discuss the thorny question of Melbourne and the equestrian events and hear what the Australian delegates have to say about the preparations Melbourne is making to stage the 10th Olympiad, but tackle once again the apparently insoluble question of "what is an amateur" as well as the points raised by the various international federations during their meetings in Lausanne.

Requests for new Olympic sports are anticipated as well as the addition of events in the already established Olympic sports. There will also be the problem of reducing the number of competitors, officials and even spectators.

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"CLYTONEUS"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	24th May 25th May

Scheduled sailings from Europe

	Leaves	Sails
G. "ANCHISES"	Liverpool	14th May
S. "CLYTONEUS"	do	14th May
G. "PYRHIUS"	do	25th May
S. "AENEAS"	do	25th May
G. "EUMALUS"	do	25th May
S. "ASCANIUS"	do	25th May
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NOTICE

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

Notice to Shareholders

Notice is hereby given that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Society will be held at the Head Office of the Society, Union Building, Hongkong, on Thursday, 27th May, 1954, at 11.30 a.m., to receive the Directors' Report and the Statement of Accounts, to declare a dividend and to transact the ordinary business of the Society.

THE SHARE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society will be CLOSED from 8th May to 27th May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
 L. R. STONE,
 General Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1954.

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Bitter Protests Over Germany's New Marriage Proposals

Bonn, May 2.

Public opinion has forced the West German Government to have second thoughts on bill dealing with the relation between religious and civil marriage ceremonies.

The bill includes a paragraph providing for the abolition of the present threat of up to five years' imprisonment for clergymen "and other religious servants" who conclude a religious marriage ceremony for a couple before they have been married by a civil registrar.

Most newspapers interpreted the provision as a meaning that the Government intended to put the religious marriage ceremony on an equal footing with the civil one. Some, in fact, took it to mean that the civil marriage would no longer be legally necessary.

Bitter protests piled up on Government desks. Some accused the Government of giving way to "Catholic pressure", referring to a letter which Cardinal Joseph Frings, of Cologne, head of the Catholic Bishops in Germany, wrote to Parliament last year. The letter demanded the abolition of the compulsory civil form of marriage.

West Germany should introduce a free system, leaving the choice of their form of marriage entirely to the betrothed," the Cardinal declared.

The Bundestag, the Upper House of Parliament, rejected the idea of abolition of the civil ceremony. It proposed that the maximum sentence for clergymen performing a religious marriage before a couple had gone through a form of civil marriage should be reduced from the present five years to three months or a fine of 500 marks (about £42 sterling).

Commentators believe that the Government still intends to go ahead with a much-disputed provision legalising the 500,000 "uncle marriages" in West Germany.

These "marriages" sprang from the fact that in West Germany widows whose soldier-husbands died in the war can draw pensions for themselves and a financial contribution to the education of their children from the State authorities as long as they do not marry again.

"UNCLE DADDY"

Drawing a logical conclusion from this provision, many a war widow who wanted to marry again after the war simply joined her new "husband" without legally becoming his wife.

Strictly speaking, the children of the new husband are illegitimate and have to call their father "uncle"—hence the adjective for these "marriages".

The decisive fact for the parents remained that as long as they were not legally married they had more money—the husband's salary plus the wife's pension—than they would have if they were married.

The Government's intention, the commentators concluded, was to allow "uncle marriages" to become proper marriages without loss of the widows' pension.

A news magazine, "Der Spiegel", of Hannover, said the Bill had hardly any chance of being passed by the Bundestag. It added that two important lessons were to be drawn from the public uproar: Cabinet Ministers would do well to read all Bills carefully before approving them and citizens would do well to "watch" bills emerging from the Cabinet—China Mail Special.

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"CAETHAGE"	20th April	31st May
"OORFU"	27th May	28th June

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CHUSAN"	2nd May	31st May
"CANTON"	12th May	12th June
"CAETHAGE"	4th June	15th July

accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

Accepting cargo for Marseilles.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Arriving in Port	From U.K.	For Japan
"SHILLONG"	do	do	do
Homewards	do	do	do
"SUBAT"	do	do	do

With liberty to call at Delawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for cargo of Oil in 1500 space for refrigerated cargo. Limited accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SANTHA"	due 5th May	from Japan
"FULTALA"	sails 7th May	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
	due 6th May	from Japan
	sails 7th May	for Singapore, Hongkong & Calcutta

P. & O. S. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OKHLA"	due 6th May	from Japan
	sails 7th May	for Ceylon, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah, Kuwait, Direct Other P. Gulf Ports via Bombay
"OLINDA"	due 11th May	from Persian Gulf
	sails 12th May	for Japan
"UMARIA"	due 20th May	from Japan
	sails 27th May	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Khorramshahr, Basrah, Kuwait, Direct Other P. Gulf ports via Bombay

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NANKIN"	due 13th May	from Japan
	sails 14th May	for Labuan, Sandakan, Malacca, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide
"EASTERN"	due 12th June	from Japan
	sails 13th June	from Australia

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:

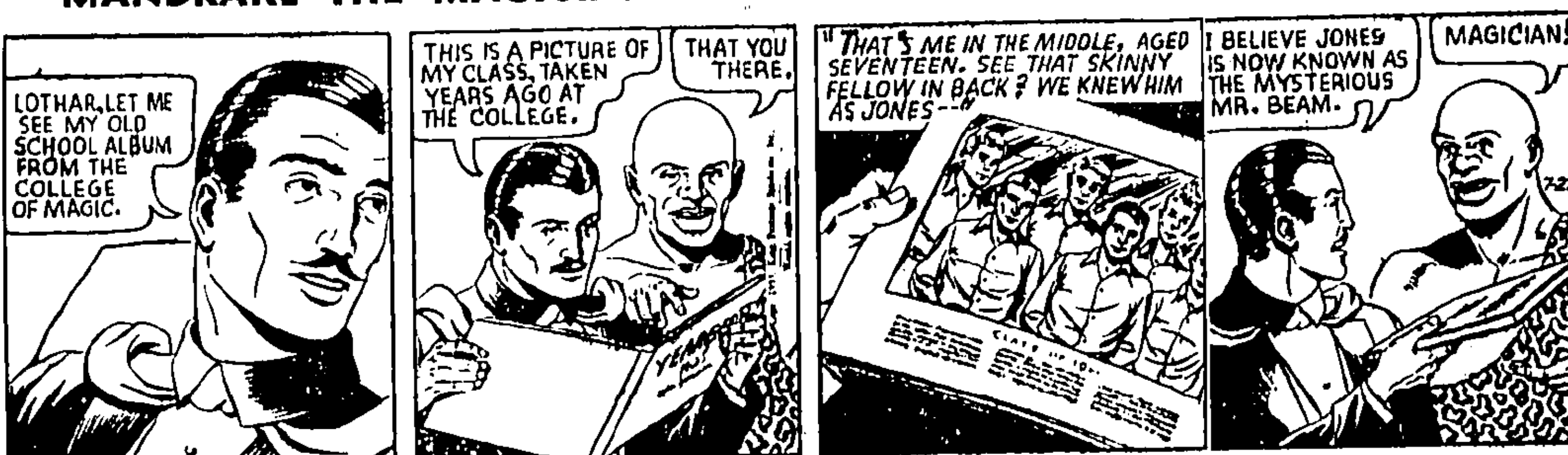
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

OF HONG KONG LTD.

Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

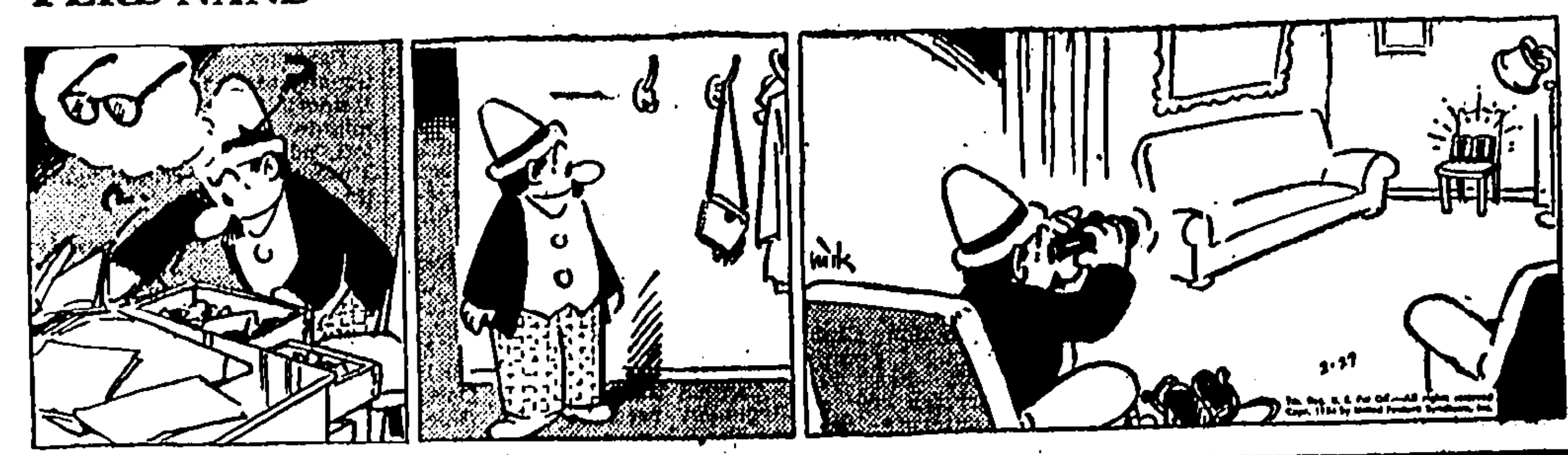
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



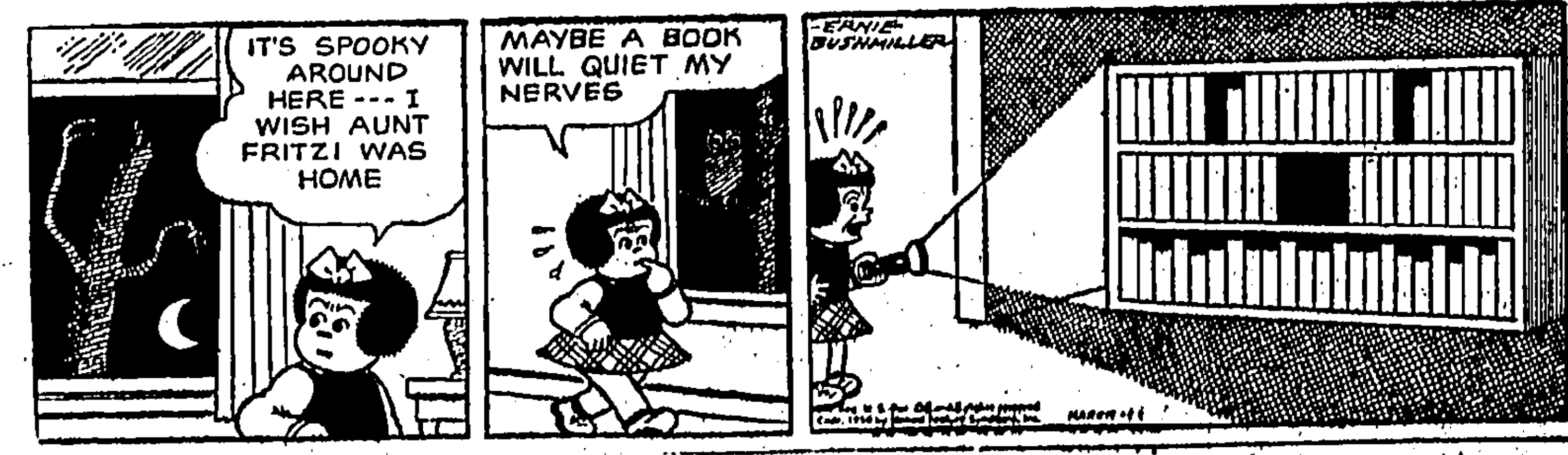
FERD'NAND

By Mik



NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel rates can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

MONDAY, MAY 3

By Air

Japan, Korea, 6 p.m.
 Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
 Macao, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

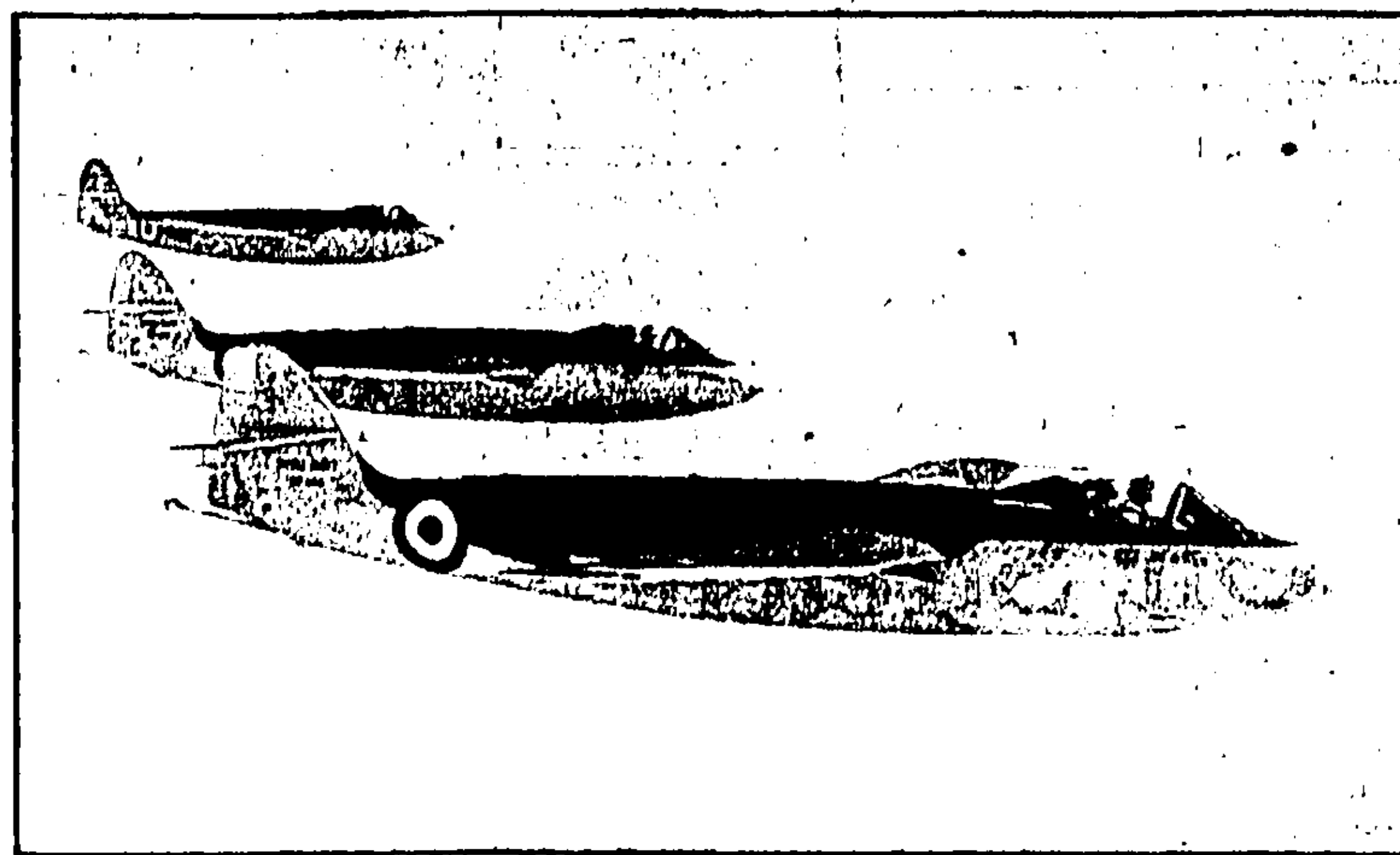
By Air

Philippines, 9 a.m.
 Burma, Ceylon, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 10 a.m.
 Japan, Korea, Hawaii, U.S.A. and Canada, 1 p.m.
 Formosa, Japan, Korea, Okinawa, U.S.A. and Canada, 6 p.m.
 Indo-China, France, 6 p.m.
 China, People's Republic, 6.30 a.m.
 Macao, 9 a.m.
 Indo-China, 2 p.m.
 Japan, 8 p.m.
 Macao, 6 p.m.

POLICE FIRE ON CROWD

Bombay, May 2. Police at the Indian village of Kadakur, about 25 miles from Pondicherry, last night fired two shots to disperse a crowd of about 200 from French India who threw stones and tried to stop a police van according to reports quoted by the French Trust of India. A French Indian policeman, who crossed into Indian Union territory, was arrested. Three Indian policemen were reported injured by stones thrown by the crowd, and two French Indians injured. When police opened fire, Reuters.

SEA HAWKS ON PATROL DUTY



A new photograph from London showing three Hawker Sea Hawks on patrol over the North Sea.

Latest Round-Up of Aviation News From Britain

He Claims His Invention Will Solve Comet Disaster Mystery

This week's round-up of aviation news tells you the effect the recent Comet crash and the suspension of Britain's new jetliners have had upon the makers, the Havilland and the operators. B.O.A.C. De Havilland experts have gone to Paris to examine a new apparatus developed by a French inventor which the designer claims will pierce the mystery of the Comet disasters; there is another item on an "electric blanket" developed by British experts to prevent icing on aircraft and also extracts from the recent Government White Paper on defence announcing new policy for air warfare. The "Round-up" comes to you from London weekly—an exclusive China Mail feature.

An apparatus recently taken off the secret list and claimed to be capable of piercing the mystery of the Comet disaster has been perfected by a team of French engineers.

The de Havilland Company, it is reported in Paris, has asked one of its representatives in France to see the inventors, whose leader is M. Jean Turck, a 43-year-old research engineer. The device is described as a complex of instruments which record the working of various parts of an aircraft in flight. Details are transmitted by radio to a recording machine on the ground.

Uncertainty about the future production rate of Comet II jet

liners is now causing some anxiety. Deliveries of these planes to the British Overseas Airways Corporation were to have begun shortly.

The first Bristol Britannia propeller-turbine aircraft are unlikely to go into service with the British Overseas Airways Corporation until 1955. If the output of Comet II is slowed down, the Corporation will be seriously short of airliners in the immediate future.

The possibility that further modifications to Comets will be found necessary, after the investigation of recent accidents which is now being made, must naturally affect the production rate of Comet II.

Meanwhile, the B.O.A.C. fleet of airliners has been seriously depleted by the withdrawal of direct routes, certificates from the Corporation's remaining six Comets is, and by the decision to sell its 19 Handley Page Hermes piston-engined airliners.

43 Airliners

The fleet available for operating B.O.A.C. services throughout the world now consists of only 43 airliners. These are 10 American Stratocruisers, 11 American Constellations and 22 Canadairs, known in Britain as Argonauts.

A progressive transfer of employees from the production of Comets and restriction of overtime working were announced the other day by Short Brothers and Harland, Belfast. The Belfast works were building about 10 Comets II, of which the first was due for delivery this summer.

A statement on similar lines has also been made by the Havilland Aircraft Co., designers of the Comet. This said that problems set by accidents to Comet II had entailed adjustments in the programme of work in de Havilland factories. There would be less overtime in certain departments, for the time being, and other rearrangements of production might be necessary.

Japanese Decision

Japan Air Lines said recently in Tokyo that it had asked the de Havilland company to delay delivery of two Comet II's until 1957 owing to financial difficulties. The planes were to have been delivered in March, 1955.

A spokesman of the airline emphasised that this was not due to the recent Comet accidents. "We made the decision long before the accidents occurred," he said. Japan still intended to use Comets and was merely putting off buying them for the time being.

Airline and Shipping Companies

Airline and shipping companies will be offering more accommodation than ever before. New ships available this year include the Kingsholm, 23,000 tons, of the Swedish American Line, and the Olympia, 22,079 tons, of the Greek Line. Later this season there will be the Suez, 22,000 tons, of the Suez Canal Line, and the Cristobal Colombo, 20,180 tons of the Italian Line.

parts of the aircraft, such as jet engine intakes, wing leading edges, cabin heater intakes and radio aerials. It is attached directly to the metal surfaces of the aircraft and, the designers claim, fits so closely that there is no loss in aerodynamic efficiency.

The current which heats it is supplied by the aircraft's normal electrical system.

The wattage can be varied ice can be prevented from forming altogether, or it can be removed periodically before a dangerous amount accumulates. This is done by heating the blanket continuously or in cycles, or by a combination of both.

Ice prevention can become fully automatic by connecting an ice detector to the blanket's control system.

The recent British White Paper on defence says it will be some years yet before there are enough new weapons to bring about any very radical modification in the pattern of Britain's defence effort. Although the time may come when, for certain purposes at any rate, manned aircraft will be superseded by guided weapons, the Government cannot yet say when that need to deal with hostile bombers capable of flying at great heights and at speeds approaching that of sound.

The White Paper says: "To deal with this threat the fighter demands a proper fighting machine whose speed well exceeds that of sound. We have in fact made good progress in this direction and we have reasonable hope that a research aircraft will fly within the next 12 months. The new fighters now being introduced into the R.A.F. will in due course be equipped with powerful air-to-air guided weapons which will increase their lethality by perhaps four times. The development of surface-to-air guided weapons is also making good progress."

The British Government has concluded that a gradual change should be brought about in the direction and balance of the defence effort.

This is the change that will be made to air force defence plans.

The new policy for the R.A.F. will be made to conform more to the "air-atomic" policy recently decided upon for the American air force. This will mean that still greater emphasis will be placed on the R.A.F. because of the need to build up a strategic bomber force and because of the importance of guided missiles.

There is one interesting paragraph in the White Paper, not directly affecting the air force, but which is worth quoting however: "Because of the less immediate danger of a global war, and because of the Government's appreciation of the probable nature of such a war, it is planned that the accumulation of reserves of warlike stores and equipment for a prolonged period of hostilities."

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

'FREE STERLING' MOVE GATHERS MOMENTUM

Wider Limits For Exchange Rates Imminent

From Our Own Correspondent

London, May 2.

Although only a month has passed since the Treasury announced the extension of the transferable account system for Sterling and the reopening of the London gold market, yet another move towards complete freedom for the pound is believed to be imminent.

The process of "setting the pound free" will, we now know, be a gradual one and the advantage of this mode of advance over the more dramatic "dash for freedom" is that it gives the authorities opportunity to test the ground ahead before making the next step forward.

And if convertibility is linked with a floating exchange rate—as many authorities on the subject believe it must be—the next logical stage in the process should be the widening of the limits within which sterling is allowed to fluctuate on either side of the official rate of US\$2.80 to the pound.

At present limits are fixed at two cents either way. That is to say, dealings in sterling are permitted to the London foreign exchange market within the price range of \$2.78 and \$2.82 to the pound. British authorities keep a close watch on the market and intervene whenever necessary to keep prices within those limits.

What gives strength to current rumours that the widening of the margins is being contemplated is the fact that official intervention has recently been necessary to keep sterling from rising above the upper limit of \$2.82. If the authorities wish under conditions of greater freedom for the foreign exchange market now is clearly a good time to initiate the experiment.

This could be done on a modest scale even under the present International Monetary Fund rule which forbids member countries to permit exchange rates of their currency to fluctuate by more than one per cent on either side of the official parity. In the case of sterling this means the permitted "ceiling" price against the dollar could be raised slightly to \$2.82½.

But it may not be long before the I.M.F. relaxes its restriction on the movement of exchange rates. This hope has been encouraged by a statement in the report of the Randall Commission which recently reviewed the foreign economic policies of the U.S.

RULES MODIFIED
Dealing with convertibility and the part I.M.F. could play in achieving this objective the Commission said it favoured "any reasonable relaxation of the fund that might be required, such as relaxation of provision for maintaining fixed parities."

This somewhat vaguely worded statement has been taken to mean the Commission would like to see the rules of the fund modified to permit dealings in member currencies beyond the present limits of one per cent either side of official parity.

The belief that the United States Government is ready to back this modification of the Fund's rules coupled with the fact that the sterling-dollar rate has recently been kept within its upper limit only by official intervention in the market provides the inspiration for the current rumour regarding the sterling exchange margins.

If the I.M.F. rule is relaxed the British authorities might well be encouraged to take advantage of it by the success of their recent moves towards a free pound.

To a large extent the present strength of sterling can be traced to the extension of the transferable account system, "transferable sterling" was quoted at \$2.77. By last week-end it had risen to \$2.79½.

DRAMATIC EFFECT
The reopening of the London gold market after a lapse of 15 years has had an even more dramatic effect. Last month the gold and dollar surplus was \$102 million of which only 16 million dollars was attributable to receipts of American defence aid and gold from the European Payments Union. Of the rest an important part was the result of gold reaching the London market.

Apart from contributing to the gold reserves the market has played its part in the strengthening of sterling because pounds acquired against dollars

may be used to buy gold in London. Since the market reopened the rate for spot sterling has risen from \$2.81-7/16 to \$2.81-31/32 and it would not doubt be higher but for official intervention.

Less easily measurable, but no less important, is the psychological effect of this greater freedom. Foreign businessmen are now more willing to hold sterling and this confidence in the pound is one of the reasons, perhaps the chief reason why the present recession in the United States has not affected us to anything like the extent that might have been expected.

Indeed the reopening of the London gold market was such an unqualified success that "The Economist" was recently able to comment: "After a fortnight of freedom the market can fairly claim to have become far and away the most important international market in gold. Most of the dealings in continental markets have been eliminated and business that used to be transacted in Amsterdam, Zurich and other centres is now being done in London."

Could better encouragement be given the British authorities have for another move towards a completely free pound?

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$420,022. Noon quotations and the morning's dealings—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS ... 1050

East Asia ... 170

INSURANCES ... 000 800

DOCKS, ETC. ... 100 0 00

K. Wah ... 10.00 17.00

Doek ... 10.00 17.00

(O) ... 12.00 12.00 500 0 12.00

1000 0 12.00

800 0 12.00

Shot Dock ... 1.00

Wheelock ... 7.45 7.55 500 0 7.5

LAND, ETC.

HK Hotel ... 8.00 8.00 500 0 8.00

1000 0 8.00

200 0 8.00

1000 0 8.00

3000 0 8.00

1000 0 8.00

HK Land ... 891 81

25 0 00

100 0 30

Shan Land ... 30 170

Humphreys ... 18

Really ... 1.50

UTILITIES

Tran ... 27.20 27.40 100 0 27.40

Star Ferry ... 127 131

C. Light (G) ... 10.00 10.00 1000 0 10.00

C. Light (N) ... 12.00 12.10

Electric ... 30 15

Revolver In A Jam Tin

Sydney, May 2.
Police stopped prisoners at Sydney's Long Bay from receiving parcels from relatives and friends, following the discovery of a revolver in a sealed tin of jam.

They also found a hack-saw in a book and drug tablets in parcels for women prisoners.

Visitors must now leave money for goods for prisoners to be bought by the jail staff. New rules forbid visitors even from kissing women prisoners.

—China Mail Special.

Why London Copper Prices Keep High

London, May 2.

Under-cover sales of Western-held copper stocks behind the Iron Curtain to Soviet Russia and her satellites are keeping up the price of copper on the London market, metal traders alleged today.

The stimulus given to metal prices earlier last week by the disturbed international situation resulting from affairs in Indo-China proved brief and metal prices have fallen again with the exception of copper.

Despite the fact that Indo-China is not of much direct importance to the copper market the price of the metal continues to harden.

The demand for copper on the London market by the Continental buyers is keeping up the price since United Kingdom users have been purchasing sparingly during the past fortnight. The general demand and consumption in Continental Europe since last autumn has exceeded expectations in London.

French demand for the metal has been good and the rate of consumption in France is at present running at between 12,000 and 13,000 tons a month. German demand is also particularly strong.

Certain types of finished copper which previously required a licence to export to the Soviet bloc countries will require no licence on and after May 3, according to the Board of Trade announcement last week.

But a spokesman stressed that these copper products—certain wire and strip copper or copper alloys—were never included in the scheduled list of strategic copper goods and had previously been licensed only because of short domestic supply. In the past when supplies were good licences were granted.

Another indication of the urgent need of Soviet Russia for copper is indicated by a report in last week's issue of the Metal Bulletin, the chief organ of the trade in Britain. It said the Argentine Government was prepared to be bidding for metals and minerals in South America, particularly about 50,000 tons of Chilean copper on behalf of Russia.—United Press.

Singapore Rubber Market

Singapore, May 2.

The rubber market opened steady last Saturday but later eased on lack of support. Prices of No. 1 rubber per lb. May 1954 were:

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NEW
CLICKER
BALLPOINT
PEN
with
RUBY
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Available at
All Good Stores

Page 10 MONDAY, MAY 3, 1954.

Dulles "Sent To His Own Funeral"

Washington, May 2.
Democratic National Chairman Stephen A. Mitchell said today the Republicans sent Secretary of State John Foster Dulles "to his own funeral" at the Geneva conference by failing to agree on a single policy.
He said Vice-President Richard M. Nixon particularly did a "very great disservice" with his remarks on the Indo-China situation.
Mr. Mitchell, interviewed on the NBC-television programme "Meet the Press" said the Republicans sent Mr. Dulles to Geneva "with a popgun and shot the ground out from under him."

Perplexing Groups At Geneva

Geneva, May 2.
Delegates at the Far East conference here are becoming increasingly puzzled by the number and complexity of groups and working parties now linked with the talks.
Here are some of them: "The Korean Seven" — consisting of the "Big Four", Communist China and North and South Korea which began secret talks yesterday on ways of tackling a Korean settlement.
"The Indo-China Nine" — made up of the "Big Four", China, the three Associated States of Indo-China — Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia — and the State of Vietnam. This is the expected composition of an "inner group" to begin discussing Indo-China this week.
"The Korean 16" — This is a body of nations which fought under the United Nations banner in Korea. It has met regularly throughout the conference to discuss a joint approach to the 16 nations talks on Korea.
"The United Nations Nine" — This is a working committee set up by the "Korean Group" to discuss in detail the United Nations approach to the Korean talks.
The "Asian Three" — The Foreign Ministers of the United States, Australia and New Zealand, whose countries are linked by a defensive alliance, have taken the opportunity of meeting here.
There are also the "Big Three", the "Big Four", the "Big Five", including Communist China, "The Communist Three" and finally, there is the projected South-east Asian Defence Alliance in the background of the conference.—Reuter.

RUNAWAY LORRY

A lorry carrying a load of earth, suddenly careened across Queen's Road Central from Garden Road about 9 o'clock this morning and ended by crashing into the Hongkong Cricket Club railings in Murray Road.
The lorry, which was proceeding slowly down Garden Road, apparently got out of control, and after racing across Queen's Road, swerved towards the Cricket Club and smashed down a part of the railings in Murray Road.
Two private cars had to brake quickly to avoid colliding with the lorry. They collided with each other, but without causing any serious damage.
There were no casualties caused by the runaway lorry.

New Efforts For Alliance

(Continued from Page 1)
breaking the deadlock. Part at least of the meeting was taken up in bitter exchanges of recriminations between the North and South Koreans.
The only thing achieved was a general agreement that the Korea question would have to be tossed to small working groups. There was no agreement on holding another such secret session.—United Press.

SWEDISH SHIP RUNS AGROUND



Helicopters had to be used to evacuate the passengers from the Swedish motor ship *Dalsland* when she ran aground on the rocks off Casablanca. The heavy seas stopped rescue vessels from going to her assistance. She is seen here as a helicopter flies off with some of the passengers.—London Express.

Situation Difficult, Not Grave

"The Vietnam situation is difficult but not grave, I hope that some arrangement could be worked out on the Geneva Conference," stated Gen. John E. Hull, Commander-in-Chief of the UN Forces in Korea.
The General, accompanied by his wife, arrived here on his personal four-star plane from Tokyo in the course of a tour to Hongkong and Singapore.
At the airport to meet the General were Lt-Gen. Sir Terence Airey, Commander, British Forces, Hongkong, Mr. Julian Harrington, American Consul-General, the US Liaison Officer, and Mr. A. Hummel, Director of the USIS.
The General will stay here for two or three days, before embarking for Singapore.
The purpose of his visit, Gen. Hull said when interviewed by the Press, is to confer with Asian Peoples and to visit British military leaders in South-east Asia countries. In answer to a question, the General said, "I am quite in favour of the Pacific Military Pact; it is necessary to have this pact."
NOT HOPELESS
Asked about the Vietnam situation, he said that it was difficult but not grave, and that he hopes that some arrangement could be worked out in the Geneva Conference. He added that the conference was far from hopeless.
The General said that newspaper reports are inclined to be over-emphasised since the siege of Dien Bien Phu. "The fate of Indo-China does not lie in the battle of the fortress," he said.
The General, when asked about the "tend to the limited war" replied: "As a soldier, I get my orders from politicians and leaders."
The General said that the Asian peoples must carry a good portion of the fight against Communism as it involved themselves.
"If they can be united, I have no fear of the Communist aggression," he added.
Asked about security pacts between the United States and Far East countries, and whether the US would send aid if necessary, the General said that he was sure that his Government was prepared to live up to all security pacts.

Storms Disrupt Manoeuvres

London, May 2.
Bad weather today cut short the biggest exercise in southern England in recent years by civilian spare-time volunteers in the Army and Royal Air Force. Thunderstorms disrupted an air attack against the nerve centre of the "Reds"—Biggin Hill airfield, just outside London.—Reuter.

Governor Visits Three Educational Institutions

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, spent nearly two hours visiting three educational institutions — Northcote Training College, St Louis School and the Tung Wah Hospitals' No. 5 Free School—on the Island this morning.

His Excellency was accompanied on his tour of inspection by the Hon. L. G. Morgan, Acting Director of Education.
The Governor's first stop was the Northcote Training College where he was met by the Principal, Mr. K. J. Attwell.
In the gymnasium, His Excellency saw some women students doing physical exercises. He was then conducted to a classroom and then the domestic science room, where women students were learning how to prepare food and cook.
In the handwork room, His Excellency saw students doing book-binding. He then inspected the common room and the visual aids room.
In one of the classrooms His Excellency saw a Second Year student teaching a class of Primary School students. These students came to the Training College twice a week and then Second Year students get some practical experience at teaching.
His Excellency concluded his visit to the College after seeing the Arts room, Science Laboratory and the library.
Throughout his visit to the College, His Excellency showed great interest in the work done at the College and he used every opportunity to speak to the lecturers.
The College has over 80 students and over half of this total consists of women.
When His Excellency arrived at the St Louis School in Third Street, boy scouts, of the 16 Hongkong St Louis School Group, snapped smartly to attention at the entrance to the School.
The Governor was then shown around the School, which has nearly 1,500 students with both English and Chinese sections, by the Very Rev. Fr. J. P. Clifford, SDB, Supervisor, Rev. Fr. A. Radzinski, SDB, Headmaster of the School.
Mr. Seaward Woo, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Tung Wah Hospitals, and members of the Board of Directors were on hand to meet His Excellency at the Tung Wah Hospitals' No. 5 Free School at Hollywood Road.
His Excellency was then conducted around the three-story building, which has five classrooms and day and night sessions. At present the School has an enrolment of over 400 students, who mostly come from needy families.
Before His Excellency concluded his tour, a small boy from Primary 4 approached the Governor and speaking on behalf of the School asked His Excellency to grant the School a holiday. The request was granted.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"The boss certainly isn't a thoughtful man—I keep his desk as neat as a pin, but he still crabs about my spelling!"

Woman Gives Evidence Lying On Stretcher

A woman giving evidence from a stretcher before Judge A. D. Scholes at the Victoria District Court this morning described a motor accident in King's Road three months ago, in which an 11-year-boy was killed and the witness and her amah were injured.
In the dock sat L/Cpl James William Foster of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, charged with dangerous driving on February 2 and, alternatively, with careless driving.

He is defended by Mr. A. S. C. Chamber of Hastings and Company. Mr. J. W. D. Hobley, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting.
In his outline of the case, Mr. Hobley said that about 7.30 p.m. on February 2, a woman, Leung Shu-ping, was standing with her amah and a cousin of hers, a boy of 11, at a tram-stop in King's Road near Bolt Street, on the south side pavement of the road.
On seeing a tram car approach, the three went out onto the road to board it. But the tram car did not stop. The group remained standing by the tram-line, looking at the departing tramcar.
About two minutes passed, when a military vehicle driven by the accused ran straight into the three persons. Crown Counsel went on: "The boy was killed and the two women injured."
SCRECHING TYRES
Mr. Hobley said none of them saw the vehicle approaching. Evidence would be given that the first warning they had was the noise of screeching tyres.
The Police arrived on the scene shortly afterwards. The vehicle had by this time moved to the roadside. The accused was taken to Bay View Police Station, where he made a statement.

In reply to a question by His Honour, Mr. Hobley said it had been raining some time before, but at the time of the accident, there was only a drizzle. He said in reply to another query, that evidence would be given that the lighting was rather dim.
Continuing, Crown Counsel said evidence would be given by a witness who was sitting in a shop in King's Road. The witness was looking through the door of his shop, which was in line with the spot where the three persons were standing, and he would say that a few minutes after a tram car had passed between him and the three persons, obscuring his view momentarily, a military vehicle came along and knocked the group down.
Mr. Hobley pointed out to the Court at this stage that this witness would say he had no difficulty in seeing the three persons standing on the road by the tramline, although he was some distance away from them.
Examined by the Motor Vehicles Inspector, the military vehicle, which was a jeep, was found to have a dent on top of the bonnet. One of the number plates on the front bumper was bent backwards. The lights were in good working order, and so were the brakes. The windshield wiper in front of the driver's seat was not working.

Crown Counsel said it was the Crown's submission that there was ample evidence to support the charges. The fact that he collided not with one person, but with a whole group, clearly showed, in his submission, that the accused had been guilty of driving dangerously.
NOT CONNECTED
In giving corroborative evidence, Divisional Traffic Inspector G.F. Watt, who examined the jeep, said the windshield wiper was in order, but it was not connected up and therefore could not work automatically.
Cross-examined, he said the dent on the bonnet looked new. It was only about a quarter of an inch long. He agreed that the number plates were of flimsy construction, and that one could bend them by hand. He agreed further that the windshield wiper, in the condition it was, could be manually operated.

ON STRETCHER
The next witness was Leung Shu-ping, of 147 King's Road, second floor, who was taken to a stretcher by several Policemen.
In her evidence, she said that at first she did not realise that she was in danger. She said she was standing with her amah and a cousin of hers, a boy of 11, at a tram-stop in King's Road near Bolt Street, on the south side pavement of the road.
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From the Files 100 Years Ago

Shakespeare
Centuries have rolled on centuries—years on years; The unprevent progress of decay Has swept the night and the mean away; Monarchs and multitudes! but there appears Tomorrow above tempests and all time, A pyramid more glorious and Than those the imperishable Mem-phris rears Over their sandy wilderness; for their Are but unpecking stones, where lies enduring But our Shakespeare, He Powers forth the undying eloquence of mind, All truth — all passion — and all poetry, Mounting on every wing and every wind, And filling earth with its sweet ministry Sir John Bowring.

Gold Discovery

A fortnight ago we mentioned, that some Chinese who had been in California had found gold in the extensive district of Nang-ping, the South-west of Canton, and that considerable excitement prevailed in consequence. The first discovery is said to have been made last year, from observing shining particles in the sand of the Tan-lin river, which, on being washed, turned out to be gold. Our next recent intelligence on the subject is that the gold is also found in the hills called the Pak-wan-shan, or White Cloud Hills, in Yan-ping-kien, and in a mountain stream called Kin Kai shui, or Gold Rivulet-water. The most successful of the gold seekers got five taels of gold in less than a month; others have picked up in a day the value of a dollar, other half, and quarter of a dollar, and some a few cents, or nothing at all. The gold is said to be purer than that of California, as 16 to 13.

REBELS DECAPITATED

The Zephyr brings news from Amoy of the decapitation of three Rebels captured by the three Western junks in the Imperial service. Late seized on suspicion of piracy by H. M. sloop Bittern. In revenge for the slaughter of their comrades, the Rebels threatened an attack on the city on the 20th (yesterday), and vowed, should it prove successful, to sacrifice every Imperialist who might fall into their hands.
The head of one of the principal Rebel chiefs, captured with eighty of his men near Suatua a fortnight after the city was retaken in November last, is, we are told, in the possession of Dr Bland. Between the teeth is a large brick, which had been driven in with such violence as to have fractured the lower jaw.

BRAVE POLICEMAN

A Coroner's Inquest was held by Mr. May at the Central Police Station on Tuesday morning last, on the body of one of several Chinese robbers, shot on Sunday night by Thomas Rumbley, the European constable of the station.
The body was brought to the station from the scene of the crime, and was placed in a coffin. The coroner, Mr. May, presided. The jury, consisting of five members, returned a verdict of "justified homicide."
The case was heard in the afternoon. The evidence was given by the police officers who were on duty at the time of the shooting. They stated that they had been patrolling the area when they came across a group of men. One of the men, who was identified as the robber, threatened them. The police officers fired at him, and he was killed.
The coroner then asked the jury to return a verdict. They agreed that the killing was justified.